

PARISHES OF ST PETER CHANEL BERALA & ST JOSEPH THE WORKER AUBURN SOUTH

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Saint Peter Chanel



The Holy Family, 30 December, 2012

From your Pastor

Holy Family

A mother was grumbling after church service that the church was not air-conditioned, the choir sang horribly and the sermon was tedious. Then her seven year old son spoke up, "Mum but it was worth for the fifty cents we put in the collection plate, isn't?" it surely challenged the mother's perspective. (No, it did not happen in our church.) Yes parents do learn a lot from the children. This is a holiday season. During the school term parents may not have enough time to spend with their children and listen to the wisdom and insights that drop out of the mouth their babes and children. Taking time off for family picnics and gatherings, you may be hearing a lot of such wisdom from the children. Many of such outbursts from the children come as a surprise to the parents, and they will make them ponder over, sometimes, what it means.

When Jesus was young, he too surprised Mary and Joseph with an outburst of certain truths they could not understand yet. The family went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. They mingled with the crowd of people who have come from far and wide. In the course of all these and shopping, they lost boy Jesus for some time. When they realised that he was not with them, they went looking for him and found him in Jerusalem Temple debating with scholars. It was a great relief for the anguished parents see their boy. They told him, 'what are you doing here? We have been looking for you'. His answer puzzled them. "Why were you looking for me?" "Don't you know that I should be busy with my Father's business?"

Mary and Joseph had to ponder over it to understand the real meaning of what boy Jesus was telling them. It must have taken many years for them to understand what their boy told them, as Jesus's personality and mission were slowly revealed to them. In presenting the Gospel this way, Luke underlines the growth of a child dedicated to his mission from tender years.

The parents learn FROM the child as well as ABOUT their children from words that come out of their mouth. Luke the evangelist presents a very profound theological meaning to what boy Jesus did and said.

Luke, as we heard from the Gospel today, speaks of the first Passover experience of Jesus in Jerusalem. At his very first Passover Feast in Jerusalem he is lost to be found on the third day in the temple. When he was found, he was found in Glory – debating with scholars and leaders in the Temple. This in a way foreshadows the last Passover experience of Jesus in Jerusalem. After his last Passover in Jerusalem, he was crucified and buried. In that sense he was lost to be found again after three days in the glory of the resurrection.

The reflection of Luke must have been the realization Mary also reached eventually. I hope and wish that every parent is also able to reflect on the lives of their children and realise profound mission in their lives. Parents realization of the mission of their children will help them to help their children take the right path always. **Parents, may you find your children engaged in their heavenly Father's business. May the New Year be a time of such profound realizations.**

Holy Mass at Berala: Monday-Friday:6.45AM; Tuesday 7PM Novena, & Mass; Wednesday—Friday 9.15 AM Saturday 8 AM

Lord's Day: Saturday 5 PM (Vigil), Sunday 8 AM, 10 AM; **Reconciliation at Berala:** Saturday 9.30 AM

Holy Mass at Auburn South: Tuesday NO Mass during School Holidays, Sunday 9 AM, **Reconciliation** Sunday 8.30 AM

Baptisms, Weddings, and Anointing of the Sick by Appointment



Parish Diary This Week!

| | St Peter Chanel | St Joseph the Worker |
|-----------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Monday | 6.45 AM Mass | |
| Tuesday | 6.45 AM Mass, 7.00PM Novena followed by Mass | |
| Wednesday | 6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass | |
| Thursday | 6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass. | |
| Friday | 6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass | |
| Saturday | 8.00 AM Mass; 9.30 AM Confession 5.00 PM Vigil Mass | |
| Sunday | 8.00 AM Mass 10 AM Mass | 8.30 AM Confession, 9.00 AM Mass |

**New Year Day Masses
6.45 AM, 7 PM Novena & Mass
at St Peter Chanel**

New Year Day—the Feast of Mary, the Holy MOTHER OF GOD

The Calendar-Shattering Mary—Fr Michael Tate

It is fitting that on this day when we note the start of a New Year, we celebrate the advent of an entirely new calendar-shattering event in human history, the extraordinary role that a young woman in Galilee played in God's plan for the human race.

The Greek word for this Feast day describes Mary as 'Theo-tokos' – God-Bearer.

It is a way for the Church to say that the One whom Mary bore in her womb was no mere prophet or guru or wonder-worker, but EMMANU-EL – God with us, God embodied, God enfleshed. Hence: Theotokos, Godbearer.

But, in the Western Church, the title 'Mother of God' was used to convey the same truth, and I prefer it. It is less clinical, more relational, less instrumental, more personal – in short, it is maternal. As soon as one proclaims Mary to be 'Mother of God', one immediately signifies a relationship, a loving, nurturing relationship which goes well beyond carrying in the womb to a safe birth.

We can quite easily imagine that relationship which was not altogether placid and straightforward. One thinks of her anguish and fright at his disappearance at the age of twelve. Humanly speaking, he was undergoing his growing awareness of his true identity. She was experiencing the pangs of a certain distancing by this adolescent son.

Yes, she was pre-eminently a Mother, with all that that entails, including the horror of seeing her son tortured and done to death on the Cross.

Yes, she was a mother, but Mother of God.

How can this be portrayed for our minds to grasp? How did Divine Revelation picture the event which set all calendars going? We need to go to the very beginning, the Book of Genesis which commences the Hebrew scriptures.

Billions of years ago, the creative act which began all reckoning of the passage of time and seasons was signalled by the Divine Wind hovering over the formless void. Light, and then the whole of the beautiful order of the cosmos came into existence at the word of the Creator.

When that Holy Gust hovered over Mary, and she responded: 'Be it done unto me according to thy Word,' the Light of the World was united to our human nature. The human existence of Our Lord Jesus Christ began.

On this calendar-changing day of 1 January, it is indeed fitting that we celebrate the maternity of Mary, the calendar-shattering event which is the fulcrum of history and from which we count the passing of the years.

At the end of all history, at the end of all calendars, may we share in Divine life with Mary of Galilee, Mother of God.

Fr Peter Kwak will be on holidays for three weeks from New Year Day.



This week we welcome into the Catholic faith
Deona Rita Emmanuel
May he always know the love of God and feel His guiding
hand throughout his life.



COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR— Now available at SPC Berala Piety Stall for \$9.00.
Buying a copy you will be supporting the Columban Mission.

Other Notices

Young Mens Retreat

The Dominican friars will be holding a retreat for men aged 18-35 at Winbourne, Edmund Rice Retreat and Conference Centre, Mulgoa, from 15-17 February 2013. Speakers include Fr Dom Murphy OP and Fr Paul Rowse OP. Theme: "Wisdom". Cost \$200 – includes meals and accommodation. Register by 26 January. For more information and to register contact Br James Baxter OP – james.baxter@op.org.au.

Position Vacant

Caritas Australia, the Catholic Church's Agency for International Aid and Development, is looking for a person, committed to Social Justice and the Church's mission to the poorest of the poor, to be our Regional Engagement Group Leader. This position leads & inspires our decentralised Regional Engagement team of Coordinators, Diocesan Directors and Administrative Assistants This is a full-time paid position, located in Sydney and may be the job for you. If you are interested, please read further information on the notice board and/or email Human Resources on jobs@caritas.org.au

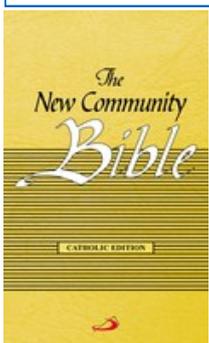
ROSARY STATUE at St Joseph the Worker

-an inspiration for daily recitation of the Rosary.-

There is now a new roster available at the back of the church. Anybody who is interested in having Our Lady's Statue in their home for a week please put your name, address and phone number on the roster.

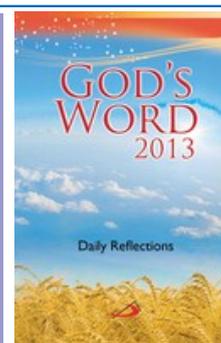
Claudette Abu Azzar will contact those interested persons, for delivery and pick-up of the Rosary Statue.

Thank you from the Legion of Mary



Currently available for sale at the Piety Stall
The New Community Bible for \$11
and Gods Word 2013, a daily reflection diary
for \$15.

Buy your copies now while stocks last.
They make great Christmas gifts!



HOLY SOULS

Please pray for the peaceful repose of Marie Irwin, Estefania Sarmiento, Esperanza Olarte, Peter Michael, P Smith; Gert & Jack Herrmann, Mary Della Smith, John William Smith, Michael Smith, John Anthony Smith, Giovanni and Amabile Cicuto, Kevin O'Brien, Ellen, Jim & Ron O'Brien, Hugh, Kathleen & Owen McDermott, Kathleen Orth, Mary, John Bull, Clem Hill & Michael Hickey, Vincent Boyd, D'Omenico Patti,

And the deceased members and friends of the following families Donnellan, Ross & Mitchell, Barrett, Tony Phillips, Clare & Walter Phillips, Jean & Edward Hulston, Slattery, Oconnor, Mullins, Willoughby, Sokolowski Family, Nkrachwicz Family, Wenner family, Mackiw family

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time Joso & Kata Zivkovic, Albino and Caterina Bertuzzi, Tereitano, Reitano,
May Their Souls Rest in Peace

Antiphons & Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord, God of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning,
is yearning for the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my soul ring out their joy
to God, the living God. **R.**

They are happy, who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.

They are happy, whose strength is in you;
they walk with ever growing strength. **R.**

O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer,
give ear, O God of Jacob.

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,
look on the face of your anointed. **R..**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our heart, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived
among us.

Today's Readings

1Samuel 1:20-22. 24-28
1 John 3:1-2. 21-24
Luke 2:41-52



Next Sunday's (Epiphany) Readings

Is 60:1-6;
Eph 3:2-3,5-6
Mt 2:1-12

Berala Rosters — God's House Keepers, Next Week

| 30 TH DECEMBER | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| | | | HOLY FAMILY |
| MASS | VIGIL | 8AM | 10AM |
| ACOLYTE | S EAMIGUEL | R.KENSEY | R. JAVIER |
| ORGANIST | ----- | ---- | SERGIO |
| CANTOR | ----- | ---- | SERGIO |
| LECTOR/S | A HOWSON | A THAM | J. MICHAEL |
| | L LOPEZ | F ROLL | M. BOTHAM |
| COMMENTOR | JOY SKERRITT | K HARTMAN | R. JAKSIC |
| GIFTS | C MABON | WARDENS | CHILDREN'S |
| | FAMILY | ----- | LITURGY |
| PIETY STALL | A MELER | F ROLL | L BILANDZIC |
| 6 TH JANUARY | | | |
| THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD | | | |
| MASS | VIGIL | 8AM | 10AM |
| ACOLYTE | E DUFFY | R.KENSEY | M. CAPRA |
| ORGANIST | | ----- | SAMOAN |
| CANTOR | CHOIR | ----- | CHOIR |
| LECTOR/S | DONNELLAN | K HARTMAN | K CAROLL |
| | FAMILY | C KENSEY | J MICHAEL |
| COMMENTATOR | P DUFFY | P A DUFFY | F.BOLONIA |
| GIFTS | D BOYD | WARDENS | CHILDREN'S |
| | FAMILY | ----- | LITURGY |
| PIETY STALL | M LEWIS | R TESTA | M THAM |

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Group 1: ALTAR – G Alkstramd; Moya Lewis; Anna Manganaro; N Mann COUNTERS – A Ebert; John Le Mottee; J Shanley Church Cleaners: Jan 5 - Samoan Youth Group | St Joseph the Worker | 6 January |
| | 1st Reading & Resp. Psalm | Doreen Stanmore |
| | 2nd Reading | Joe Moses |
| | Prayers of the Faithful | Ingrid Scharenguivel |
| | Altar Servers | TBA |
| | Cleaning | Maronite Group |