



## 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 **YouTube:** BeralaParish

**Holy Mass at Berala:** Monday to Friday 6.45am, Saturday 8.00am | **Holy Hour:** Saturday 8.30am-9.30am  
**Lord's Day Mass Berala:** Saturday 5.00pm (Vigil), Sunday 8.00am & Sunday 10.00am  
**Reconciliation at Berala:** Saturday 8.30am - 9.30am. Or contact the parish office for any other time.

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

26 JULY 2020

### The right perspective will unfold the Kingdom of God

These days with the COVID-19 restrictions, we have to be innovative in a lot of things. Recently the sacramental team of the parish has been discussing how to reorganise the Sacramental Preparation Programs without calling for the parents to gather and risk the spread of corona virus. Zoom meetings is the suggestion that would pop up in many minds. But will on line teaching adequate enough to bring a sense of greater affinity among the families with their Church and Jesus Christ? In adapting the new ways of communicating and reaching out, we should not lose sight of the original values and goals we have set for the faith formation. In every age our faith practices were faced with challenges to bring what is old and the new for a selecting process. The Kingdom of God on earth is constantly demanding the disciples to sort out what is good in their culture and family traditions and what he or she has discovered new.



You may have a tradition of mourning the passing away of a family member. You may have a tradition of fasting or novena prayers. There may be daily prayers you are used to. There are inherited ways of greetings, social life, and so on. In all these your faith life demands a great commitment. Keeping up that deep commitment, how would you adapt new ways of praying, fasting, socialising, and using modern ways of living? A person of faith should be able to bring out the old and the new and sort them out for greater joy of faith life.

The Gospel writers used the Old Testament to present the mystery Jesus and their experience of Jesus' Resurrection. Gospels show us how Jesus discarded some of the unhelpful things of the past and presented some new ways of understanding God's love and mercy.

When people come to me with their life issues, (which happens every week) let it be family problems or personal crises, my job as a pastor is to help them to sort their problems out in the light of the Word of God. The Word of God is nothing new, it has been there always. The art of living our faith life is to bring the current issues of life and the old wisdom of the Gospels and see the life in the right perspective. With that perspective we see the Kingdom of God unfolding in and around us.

### MASS INTENTIONS

**Sick:** Sr Tomsy, Tony Draybi, Graham Turner, Sr Salve Stuart

**Recently Deceased:** Nenette Ganchingco, Ross Kleist, Gloria Collins, Leila Mitchell,

**Deceased:** Michael Baptiste, Peter Nguyen, Van Soi, Fatima Bolonia, Mamerto Bolonia Sr, Gloria Bolonia, Astrid Bolonia, Chona Victorino, Winny Guillena, Marylou Geronca, Daniel Latorre Sr, Mary Ellen Masterson, Marie Santa Maria, Jeff Eagleson

**Anniversary:** Maria Beatrice Nazareth, Percy Baptise, Gerard Pinto, Josip Živković, Kata Dragan Živković

**Deceased Members and Friends of:** O'Dwyer & Erwin Families, Ross & Mitchell Families

**Wedding Anniversary:** Anna & Greg Facer

**Contact the Parish Office to include your intentions in the Mass by Fr Thomas.**

PLEASE DO NOT PUT THE BULLETIN  
BACK IN THE CHURCH



## ANTIPHONS & READINGS

### Entrance Antiphon

Cf Ps 67:6-7, 36

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

### First Reading 1 Kgs 3:5. 7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97

#### R. Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word. The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. R

Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant. Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. R

That is why I love your commands more than finest gold. That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. R

Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it. The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. R

### Second Reading Rom 8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

### 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 13:44-46

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

### Communion Antiphon Ps 102:2

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

### Next Week's Readings:

1st Reading: Is 55:1-3

2nd Reading: Rom 8:35. 37-39

Gospel: Mt 14:13-21

### 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 No .....Email .....

Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.  Yes, please organise automatic credit card deductions. (An authority form will be sent)

**Gospel Focus – The Kingdom is like...**

Throughout the gospels, Jesus consistently uses the figures of speech of simile and metaphor to describe the kingdom. He never directly describes the kingdom. It is always described as being like some situation or person or as if... This figurative use of language means that we have no single clear picture of what the kingdom is like but we do have a multitude of metaphors and descriptions. This style of description adds to the paradoxical nature of the kingdom – it is like many things yet we don't really know what it is like at all.

**Scriptural context – Matthew Ch 13**

Over the last few weeks we have now heard Matthew Chapter 13 almost in its entirety. We heard first the parable of the sower then last week three short parables about weeds amongst the wheat, the mustard seed growing into a great tree and leaven in the flour. Finally, today we have had these additional pithy parables. The entire chapter seeks to paint metaphoric images of the kingdom. Woven through these images is a suggestion that the kingdom is open to all – all are presented with the invitation – but not everyone will accept that invitation or respond to it in the same way.

**Have you thought? Interpretation**

In today's passage the gospel writer appears to describe himself: 'every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.' It is a fantastic description of what it means to be an interpreter of the gospel. To interpret scripture, one must draw on what is old; applying understandings of the text in its original context and its original audience. But one must also draw on what is new; making connections between that original setting and the context in which it is being read today.

**I rejoice exceedingly in all my tribulations**

*From a homily on the 2nd letter to the Corinthians by Saint John Chrysostom*

Again Paul turns to speak of love, softening the harshness of his rebuke. For after convicting and reproaching them for not loving him as he had loved them, breaking away from his love and attaching themselves to troublemakers, he again takes the edge off the reproach by saying: *Open your hearts to us*, that is, *love us*. He asks for a favour which will be no burden to them but will be more profitable to the giver than to the receiver. And he did not use the word "love" but said, more appealingly: *Open your hearts to us*.

Who, he said, has cast us out of your minds, thrust us from your hearts? How is it that you feel constraint with us? For, since he has said earlier: *You are restricted in your own affection*, he now declares himself more openly and says: *Open your heart to us*, thus once more drawing them to him. For nothing so much wins love as the knowledge that one's lover desires most of all to be himself loved.

*For I said before*, he tells them, *that you are in our hearts to die together or live together*. This is love at its height, that even though in disfavour, he wishes both to die and to live with them. For you are in our hearts, not just somehow or other, but in the way I have said. It is possible to love and yet to draw back when danger threatens; but my love is not like that.

*I am filled with consolation*. What consolation? That which comes from you because you, being changed for the better, have consoled me by what you have done. It is natural for a lover both to complain that he is not loved in return and to fear that he may cause distress by complaining too much. Therefore, he says: *I am filled with consolation, I rejoice exceedingly*.

It is as if he said, I was much grieved on your account, but you have made it up for me in full measure and given me comfort; for you have not only removed the cause for any grief but filled me with a richer joy.

Then he shows the greatness of that joy by saying not only *I rejoice exceedingly* but also the words which follow: *in all my tribulations*. So great, he says, was the delight that you gave me that it was not even dimmed by so much tribulation, but overcame by its strength and keenness all those sorrows which had invaded my heart, and took away from me all awareness of them.

**Scripture Classes in Public Schools Resume**

The Three Public schools in our parish have invited the catechists to resume Scripture classes. Brenda Wendt-Hussein and team are getting ready to resume the lessons. They needed to make some adjustments, which they are working on. There is also a reduced number of Catechists to recommence in this COVID situation. The parish appreciates the great work the catechists are doing.

## FEASTS & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

### Wednesday, 29 July, St Martha (Memorial)



The sister of Mary and Lazarus of Bethany. Honoured for her confession of faith in the Lord in which she beseeched him to restore life to her dead brother (John 11:27). Remembered too for her hospitality to Jesus and her concern for the details of service to guests.



### Friday, 31 July - St Ignatius of Loyola (Memorial)

Born at Loyola (Spain) in 1491. Died on this day at Rome in 1556. A Spanish nobleman trained in diplomacy and the use of arms, wounded in battle against the French. The experience of conversion while convalescing led him to write the Spiritual Exercises. Then founded the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and became its first superior general. Remembered for his loyalty to the Church and its renewal, his ministry to the marginal, his concern for education, and his dedication "to the greater glory of

## WHAT'S NEW?

### New QR Code



Paying donations to the church is made easy by introducing a QR Code.

Using a smart phone camera scan the QR code. The phone will come up with prompting to open the donation App (using Commonwealth Bank security). Open the App and select the item from the pull down menu and enter the amount you wish to donate. This is a touch free and convenient way of donating to the church. This facility is also more versatile than Quest Tap on facility in the Church. The Tap on facility and cash donation facilities continue to be available for you to use.

### Live Streaming Changed

The parish is now back to the normal schedule of Masses. The numbers in our church is capped at 90. Therefore, the Vigil Mass on Saturday 5 PM is live streamed each week, for the benefit of those who are not able to attend the Mass in person.

If you are in the high risk category, due to your age or chronic sickness, you are advised not to attend the Mass with the congregation in the Church. Anyone feeling unwell are also advised not to attend the Mass. They should consult their GP. Once again be advised of the change of time of the Live Streaming. From now on Saturday 5 pm Mass is live streamed, which can be accessed on YouTube channel Berala Parish on Sunday as well.

## ZOOM Bible Study

### Topic: Matthew's presentation of the person of Jesus

Time: 7pm-8pm on Tuesday

To join send an email request to

info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au and the link will be sent to you.



Wishing all the best of God's blessings on Anna and Greg Facer and their family as they celebrate their wedding Anniversary this weekend.

## COVID Restrictions

- ◆ Number of people allowed in the church 90 (one person per 4 square metre' rule). Church doors will be closed when the 90<sup>th</sup> person enters for the Mass.
- ◆ Parish Bulletins are sent by email. Printed Bulletin can be collected AFTER Mass, and not to be put back in the church.
- ◆ Vigil Mass (Saturday 5 PM) will be Live streamed, and it will be available on demand thereafter on YouTube Channel BERALA PARISH.
- ◆ 8am and 10 am Masses will continue to be celebrated.
- ◆ Holy Hour and Confessions on Saturdays 8.30 am – 9.30 am
- ◆ Bookings for Baptisms, anointing of the sick, marriages are welcome. Schedule for Confessions will be 8.30 am to 9.30 am on Saturdays. But you are also welcome to call and make an appointment for any other time.
- ◆ Contactless donations are possible by direct debit, QR Code, Tap on Facility in the church, and 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection jars at the entrance of the church for cash.
- ◆ If you are unwell consult your GP.
- ◆ New set of envelopes are made available in the church foyer this weekend for you to collect.

## Printed | Published

- ◆ COVID-19 Safety Plan for the Parish is now available on the Parish Website.
- ◆ Catholic Weekly has resumed printing and copies are available in the church for \$2 each.
- ◆ Printed copies of the Parish Bulletin are available after each of the weekend masses.

~Fr Thomas

## OTHER NOTICES

### Silent Retreat for Men 2020

This is a silent retreat weekend exploring the vocation of the Diocesan Priesthood as Servant of the Domestic Church. How does a Diocesan Priest in the Parish meet the spiritual needs of the faithful? Surrounded by the serene and peaceful bushlands of Mount Schoenstatt, this weekend will enable you to spend some time in prayerful silence with Daily Mass, Rosary, Prayer of the Church, Adoration and much more. **Friday 7 – Sunday 9 August 2020** | Mount Schoenstatt, Mulgoa (230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa NSW 2745) | Registration Cost: \$75 (*scholarship available if needed*) \*Limited to 18 participants only. Note: Participants at this retreat must be 18 – 35 yrs old. \*Every inquirer's/participant's details are kept confidential. **Please RSVP by Wednesday, 29 July 2020.** For more info: 02 9307 8424 or [vocations@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:vocations@sydneycatholic.org).

### New Dates for Plenary Council

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic the National Plenary Council Assembly has been postponed to October 2021 (Adelaide) and April 2022 (Sydney). The discernment papers foundational to the development of the working paper and ultimately the agenda for the Assembly are available on the National Plenary Council webpage under the Discernment tab: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/>

### Feast of Our Lady of Terzito

This year, due to Covid-19 restrictions, the celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Terzito will not be open to the public. It will be live streamed from Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Gladesville with Mass at 1.30pm on 26th July. This will be followed by the Rosary and Benediction. Link: <https://YouTube.be/eDPK0nkIKXk>. In these difficult times we need to be innovative in our devotions. May Our Lady of Terzito continue to bless us and our families."

### Parentline

Many families are in the midst of or are facing serious challenges in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and need extra support but don't know where to start. Parent Line can help parents by providing support and strategies to manage. Call us 7 days a week on 1300 1300 52.

### CatholicCare

Are you struggling in this time of crisis? Depression. Anxiety. Loneliness. Conflict. Stress. CCareline 13 18 19 is a free and confidential helpline for counselling, relationships, parenting, ageing, disabilities, addictions and mental health. For help finding help, call CCareline on 13 18 19

# Encountering Christ

Join the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia for a weekend retreat around the theme of Romans 12:12.

We will be guided by the retreat centre in following all COVID protocols.

Date: 21-23 August 2020

Who: Catholic women ages 18-35

Where: Mount Schoenstatt

Retreat Centre (single or shared accommodation available)

For more information or to register, contact the Sisters at [sydney@dp-tn.org](mailto:sydney@dp-tn.org).



This retreat will include times for personal prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, Daily Mass, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Divine Office, Rosary, talks, discussion, fellowship, and individual conferences.

[nashville.dominican.org](http://nashville.dominican.org) - [@dominicansistersaustralia](mailto:@dominicansistersaustralia)

## Changing status of Hagia Sophia could sow division



Published: 24 July 2020

In a statement signed by Archbishop Mark Coleridge and Archbishop Makarios released today, the two leaders “join our voices to the many around the world who have expressed deep regret at the recent decision in Turkey to change the status of Hagia Sophia/Aya Sofya”.

Hagia Sophia, which was a Christian cathedral for more than 900 years before becoming a mosque in the 15th century, became a secular museum in 1935. After a decision

earlier this month, it has again become a mosque, with Friday prayers set to resume there today.

The archbishops said the grand building has, for the past 85 years, been “a monument of world cultural heritage and a symbol of inclusivity”.

“Our fear is that this could aggravate tension between Christians and Muslims at a time when we need to pursue the path of dialogue and seek common ground,” the statement says.

“The path of nationalist ideology and the political decisions it prompts can lead only to division, which is never the fruit of the holy wisdom all religions seek.”

The archbishops prayed for the people of Turkey, including the Christians “who have been especially grieved by this decision”.

“We pray too that in time the decision will be reversed, so that Hagia Sophia/Aya Sofya can again be common ground for all people and an emblem of peace,” they concluded.

FULL STORY

[Greek Orthodox and Catholic archbishops lament Hagia Sophia move](#) (ACBC Media Blog)

[Joint Statement on Hagia Sophia](#) (ACBC and Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia)

Parish Volunteer Program - lending a helping hand to those in need

Parishes and CatholicCare working together to support isolated and vulnerable parishioners and the local community.

Call CCareline to find out more

CCareline 131819

CatholicCare.org

✉ [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org)

🕒 8am – 6pm Monday – Friday