



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/channel/UC8w8w8w8w8w8w8w8w8w8w8w)

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.
For Baptisms, Weddings, Bible Study and Catholic Enquiry, please contact Fr Thomas or the parish office on 9644 7787.

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11 OCTOBER 2020

The Bad too are invited, not without a Garment

The scandal caused by now disgraced Cardinal Giovanni Becciu has been another challenge for the Holy Father Pope Francis. What should the Holy Father do with such baddies in the Church? Such scenarios were present all through history, starting with the early Church. Evangelist Matthew reflected on a similar situation in his community in *Matthew 22:1-14*.



Jesus presented the Kingdom of God as a celebration like having a feast with good food and drinks. It is like a wedding feast, Jesus said. The story told by Matthew is to be read allegorically. The people who were invited to the feast initially were the Jews who did not convert to Jesus' ways. Where they missed out, people from the 'the cross roads' are invited. This invitation and acceptance was all inclusive, opening up the Kingdom of God to the whole world. To the story told by Jesus, Matthew adds commentary on the devastation of Jerusalem in AD 70 by the Romans. "The king was furious." Matthew wrote. "He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burned their town." Here the king is not just a host, but presented as the ruler. Jesus who has authority is inviting the good and bad alike to the Kingdom. The Church is a mix of the good and the bad. The Church is not just for the righteous. But the story told by Jesus has a twist at the end. "So these servants went out on to 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." Why did the king who allowed the good and the bad into the wedding hall dismiss the person without the wedding garment? In the culture of the time 'outer garment' symbolically represents the inner person. The person being without the wedding garment means that they are inwardly unworthy to be present.

On last Saturday, 3rd October, Pope Francis published his latest encyclical, 'FRATELLI TUTTI' (All Brothers). In this encyclical, our Pope admits having been inspired by the Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew whom he calls 'brother' and encouraged by the Grand Imam Al-Tayyeb. Our Holy Father challenges every Christian, in the Encyclical, to have a wider perspective. It tells us how the Church is inclusive 'the bad and the good'. It also identifies many areas requiring 'conversion'.

Reflecting on the story of the 'wedding feast' told by Jesus, know that you are invited to fullness of life through the joy of celebrating the invitation to the Kingdom of God, and be aware of the danger of neglecting it. Can you recall any time in your life where you missed out on the opportunities to a fuller life? When you are challenged to conversion in these invitations to fuller life, have you been able to present yourself with the 'wedding garment' or were you silent like the person in the story, not able to give an account of your life?

MASS INTENTIONS

Sick: Sr Tomsy, Graham Turner, Sr Salve Stuart, Theo Bergstedt, Monsignor Antonio Mortillero, Tony Michael, Rosario Poli, Doreen Stanmore, Tony Draybi

Recently Deceased: Joseph Kurunthanam, Zacharias Edamula, Constanca Andino

Deceased: Nellie Lim, Dulcie Cullen

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

Other Intentions: For all those affected by the Corona Virus. Holy Souls in Purgatory. For the intention of the Holy Father.



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bulletin back in the church.

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ANTIPHONS & READINGS

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.

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.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22 Rv6

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

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**

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**

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**

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**

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 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!

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.'

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:

1st Reading: Is 45:1. 4-6

2nd Reading: 1 Thes 1:1-5

Gospel: Mt 22:15-21

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney



Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office by phone at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

REFLECTIONS ON MATTHEW 22:1-14

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.

My name is great among the nations

A commentary on Haggai by St Cyril of Alexandria

When our Saviour came, he appeared as a divine temple, glorious beyond any comparison, far more splendid and excellent than the older temple. He exceeded the old as much as worship in Christ and the gospels exceeds the cult of the laws, as much as truth exceeds its shadows. Furthermore, I might point out that originally there was just one temple at Jerusalem, in which one people, the Israelites, offered their sacrifices. Since the only-begotten Son became like us, and as Scripture says, though he was *Lord and God, he has shone upon us*, the rest of the world has been filled with places of worship. Now there are countless worshippers who honour the universal God with spiritual offerings and fragrant sacrifices. This, surely, is what Malachi foretold, speaking, as if in the person of God: *I am a great king, says the Lord; my name is honoured among the nations, and everywhere there is offered to my name the fragrance of a pure sacrifice.*

With justice, therefore, do we say that the final temple, the Church, will be more glorious. To those who are so solicitous for the Church and labour for its construction, Haggai declares that a gift will be made, a gift from heaven given by the Saviour. That gift is Christ himself, the peace of all men; *through him we have access in the one Spirit to the Father.* The prophet goes on to say: *I will give peace to this place and peace of soul to save all who lay the foundation to rebuild the temple.* Christ too says somewhere: *My peace I give you.* Paul will teach how profitable this is for those who love: *The peace of Christ, he says, which surpasses all understanding will keep your minds and hearts.* Isaiah, the seer, made the same prayer: *O Lord our God, give us peace, for you have given us everything.* Once a man has been found worthy of Christ's peace, he can easily save his soul and guide his mind to carry out exactly the demands of virtue.

Haggai, therefore, declares that peace will be given to all who build. One builds the Church either as a teacher of the sacred mysteries, as one set over the house of God, or as one who works for his own good by setting himself forth as a living and spiritual stone *in the holy temple, God's dwelling place in the Spirit.* The results of these efforts will profit such men so that each will be able to gain his own salvation without difficulty.



This week we welcome into the Catholic faith

Evana Brobin Fernandez

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



FEASTS & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK



Thursday, 15 October - St Teresa of Jesus (Memorial)

Born at Avila (Spain) in 1515. Died at Alba de Tormes in 1582. Left her aristocratic family for the Carmelite monastery in Avila at the age of twenty, but only after two decades of dryness in prayer felt an inner conversion to Christ. Honoured as a spiritual writer and mystic who experienced and comprehensively described the life of prayer. Remembered as a strong, practical reformer who restored the strict Carmelite observance of poverty, solitude, and austerity.

WHAT'S NEW?

Sacrament of First Holy Communion 2020 is finally here!

Group 1 - 17th October 2020 @ 11.00am

Please also note on the 15th of October 2020 @ 7.00pm - Reconciliation night (along with guided adoration) for the Group 1 FHC candidates and their families only.

Parents kindly check your emails as we have sent out some important information towards this big day.

We have uploaded the Faith Zoom talks and a video “Sacred Items & Facts” that would help your child. It is available on our parish website (Sacraments – Eucharist).

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Catholic Faith, know that we as a parish community will be praying for each one of you as you prepare as a family for your child to receive this sacrament and may this be a reminder and an invitation for each one of us to make our hearts a home for Jesus.

Let this be a prayer that you could recite as we come closer to this big milestone.

My Heart your Home

Looking forward to seeing you all on the 15th of October.

God bless!

Sophia Brewty, Sacramental Co-ordinator



Holy Father's Appeal

Our thanks go to all of you who opened your hearts and gave generously towards the Holy Father's Appeal. Because you chose to give, you have given hope to those who are in most need of our generosity and compassion.

If you missed appeal weekend, you can still give by phoning the Fundraising Office on 1800 753 959. Thank you!

Are you struggling during this Covid situation?

If you are struggling financially, Fr Thomas may be able to help you. Contact him over the phone or directly email him at pp@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au. Anyone struggling with personal or domestic issues also is welcome to contact Fr Thomas and he may be able to organise help for you.

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)

Dream Mining and Aussie Spirit

While I was on holidays, I lost my uncle Joseph (87) and my cousin Zacharias (71) few days apart. They both had been unwell for some time. It was not too long ago another cousin of mine, Leelamma, also died. Thank you, especially my parish, whom I consider as my family, for the prayers and words of consolation. In spite of this sad news, I enjoyed my holidays with my priest friends. Some of you might be interested to hear about my outback experiences.

Silverton, north of the famous mining town of Broken Hill has an apocalyptic vision to share. If like me, you think apocalyptic visions are found only in the Bible, you and I are proven wrong. All apocalyptic stories have an oppressive and terrible context to the dream of prosperity and freedom. The miners in the nineteenth century were no exception. The miners sat against the wall of their shack to sleep and dream. Lying down they could suffocate themselves from the fluid their lungs which were damaged from the dust of the mines where they spent twelve hours, six days a week. In December 1881 when Joe Meech had a day nap under the shade of a tree, he saw before him on the ridge a metalliferous outcrop and stumbling wearily towards it, found it to be a blow of mineral, charged with light blue, green and yellow carbonates. He followed his day dream and started mining there. Since then different mine owners made fortunes for themselves. These fortune stories also had tales of miseries as another side to it. The adult miners were referred to as widow makers for the reason that many of them died young leaving behind them poor widows. In a world poor of food and money, men started to go underground mining for wealth at a very early age, even as young as eight year old. The choice for them was between the misery of poverty at home and harsh life underground fighting with dust, darkness, disease, and dangers. Yet many saw the chance to be a miner as fortunate! Our nation progressed; so did the mining technology. Now Day Dream Mine is attracting people from cities for an underground experience, aiding their imaginations to be dreamers in their own right. What would you call the Aussie spirit then and now?



The only institution in the Day Dream wilderness is Café Shack selling iconic Aussie country scones and coffee to the visitors. With COVID restrictions, Broken Hill and the outback has gained a reputation as a worthy holiday destination. The demand at the Day Dream Café doubled, if not tripled. As the very limited staff struggled to cope with the surge of demand, I saw another Aussie spirit. A couple of lady visitors, after their mining tour offered their service to help in the kitchen and with serving other visitors. With no remuneration in mind and the joy of serving others as the only motive, these women highlighted another noble Aussie spirit.

The past mining history of Broken Hill is summarised in the sculptures and paintings of the renowned artist Pro Hart. The most outstanding among them are the Yabby Easters and the stacked faces called Miners. Both works are done in steel. The material, the style, and the theme speaks volumes about the history of the development of Broken Hill, the stacked mine workers had to be bodies made of steel. So also, the owners of the mine who feasted on yabbies.

Another inspirational tour was to the Royal Flying Doctors in Broken Hill. Over a century ago, Rev John Flynn, a Presbyterian minister saw the struggles of the pioneers in the Outback. He, like Saint Mary MacKillop, decided to do something about it. It was a time when there was no electricity, let alone telephones, available to the people in the bush. His Christian missionary commitment led to the inventions of peddled generators and two way radios to establish a communication network for the medical staff to reach out to the sick in the bush. How his persistence and commitment helped to acquire aircraft and gather teams of medical personnel is very inspiring.

Broken Hill is not just a deserted outback town, but a subject of reflection. My dreams, visions, and the lack of them are tested here.

The farmers are happy this year. After four years of drought, they are ready for a decent harvest. In spite of their harsh environments, many of them are very staunch in their faith. Meeting Rachael and Ben Fanning in their farm was very uplifting both spiritually and otherwise. The high light was their son Patrick driving four of us priests about ten kilometres back to their home, in their family car. You may ask what is special about it. When you consider the age of Patrick who is yet to turn eight, you would know how stunning an experience it is. I am sharing my holiday experience with you my parishioners, because you are my family.

OTHER NOTICES

World Mission Day - Sunday 18th of October

World Mission Day, or Mission Sunday, reminds Catholics about their commitment and support for the missionary work of the Church through prayer and sacrifice. On Pentecost Sunday, May 31, Pope Francis released his message for this year's celebration and said that the Covid-19 pandemic is an opportunity for mission and service to others. While the present circumstances are a challenge for parishes, your support for the needs of the missionary churches would be very much appreciated.

Dating, Drugs, Rock'n'Roll



All young adults are invited to participate online in Macquarie University Catholic Society's Mission Week themed "Sex, Drugs, Rock'n'Roll"! With an amazing line up of speakers including Jason Evert, Fr Rob Galea, Monica Doumit and Patrick Langrell, this is the opportunity to ask those controversial questions you've always wanted answered. Held at 1-2pm from the 6th – 9th of October

on Zoom. Register here for more details: <https://forms.gle/RuNe9n2auRK53NUo9> or follow our Facebook page for updates: <https://www.facebook.com/mqcatholics> or scan the QR code.

Got your wedding plans under control?

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. For further information visit: www.engagedencounter.org.au. Choose any of the coming weekends: Nov 7-8, Feb 20-21.

The Catholic Weekly has gone Digital!

With The Catholic Weekly returning to print, some of you might prefer to read it electronically on your desktop,

tablet or mobile. Subscribe to The Catholic Weekly Digital Edition at <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/product/the-catholic-weekly-digital-edition/> and be the first to receive the latest Catholic news and opinion.

CatholicCare supporting seniors

CatholicCare Home Care services for seniors can help parishioners navigate the complicated My Aged Care system and provide services for seniors so they can live life to the full. Call 13 18 19 to for one of our Home Care Specialists to talk you through the process.

Parent Line: 1300 1300 52

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: Can you picture yourself being a foster carer?

Family Spirit are seeking safe and stable homes for children for up to 6 months or longer. To book a one on one appointment call CCareline connect@familyspirit.org | 13 18 19 | 8am – 6pm, Monday – Friday

CatholicCare outreach to the lonely and isolated

CatholicCare, through its CCareline 13 18 19 number and the Parish Volunteer Program in partnership with the Archdiocese of Sydney, is working together as the 'hands and feet of Christ in the community' reaching out to those most in need in our parishes and beyond. To register or learn more about the Parish Volunteer Program call CCareline on 13 18 19. If you are struggling and need help or support, or you are worried about someone else, please call CCareline on 13 18 19 today.

Current Church COVID Restrictions

- ◆ Number of people allowed in the church 90 (one person per 4 square metre rule). Church doors will be closed when the 90th person enters for the Mass.
- ◆ The church doors will be left open as long as there is someone to monitor the registrations. Should you wish to make a visit and the church doors are closed, contact the office to open the church door for you.
- ◆ The use of face mask when attending church is recommended but not mandatory.
- ◆ 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 and 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.
- ◆ If you are unwell consult your GP, and you should not attend the church.

Beautiful Minds Bankstown Volunteers



Is the COVID Lockdown keeping you at home? We can offer you a place to talk, have a cuppa & light relaxation exercises.

WELCOME TO

SEFTON SUPPORT AND SOCIAL GROUP
FOR THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY
Every Friday at 10am – 12 noon

104 CARLINGFORD ST SEFTON

CONTACT:- PAUL: 0434797927

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