



## St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Berala

*Streams of living water will flow from within. ~John 7:38*

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**Parish Website:** [www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au](http://www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au), **facebook:** [stpeterstjoseph](https://www.facebook.com/stpeterstjoseph) **YouTube:** [BeralaParish](https://www.youtube.com/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.  
For Baptisms, Weddings, Bible Study and Catholic Enquiry, please contact Fr Thomas or the parish office on 9644 7787.

**29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME World Mission Sunday 18 OCTOBER 2020**

### *For God or Caesar*

Is it proper for the government to share tax revenue with the education and charity initiatives of the Church? This has always been a matter of contention. Whenever the government speaks about school funding, arguments about the share to the Catholic Schools becomes a hot issue of discussion in the media and otherwise. It is nothing new. In 1962, the government then decided that Catholic Schools do not deserve tax payer funding. The Catholic Church argued that they are entitled to their share of the tax to educate and form their children in religious values and faith life. Protesting the Government decision, the Catholic Archdiocese of Goulburn decided to close all its Archdiocesan Schools with immediate effect. The tactics worked and the government was obliged to continue funding the Catholic Schools. The Government support for religious schools continues in our country till today, though some continue to question the merit of it.



While we debate the government's response to religion and its initiatives, Jesus' time was different. The religious people of his time asked the question, *'Is it proper to pay tax to a pagan emperor?'* Our Lord's response to that question is what we read in *Matthew 22:15-21*.

The question Jesus was asked was a tricky one. *"Is it against the Law of Moses to pay taxes to Caesar?"* Denarius, the Roman coin with which the tax was to be paid, had the image of the Caesar with the inscription, *'Augustus Tiberius, son of the Divine Augustus'*. Because of this icon and inscription, any handling of such a coin by the Jewish people would have been incompatible with the teaching of Leviticus and Deuteronomy about idolatry (Ref *Exodus 20:4; Deuteronomy 5:8; Deuteronomy 6:4-5*). Therefore, saying 'yes' would have been seen as Jesus disregarding the Law of Moses. If Jesus was to answer 'no', that would have brought him in trouble with the ruler, Caesar. Jesus seeing through their intention to trap him, answered cleverly *'give it to him and give to God what is due to God'*. This answer of Jesus also settled for the disciples of early Church in their position on their relationship with the civil authorities. Christians are to pay the dues to the civil authorities; let not trivialities like money hinder the primacy of God in your life. Commit to God life and all that life brings to God, who is the author of life and your provider.

The challenge we have in our time is to not let our material affluence blind us to the importance of giving glory to God in our lives. Our faith life matters and in fact it matters most. Yet it does not exclude our civil responsibilities. Let your material affluence and civil responsibilities not hinder your faith commitments, but enhance it.

### MASS INTENTIONS

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

**Recently Deceased:** Albert Chow Chee Nam, Monsignor Antonio Mortillero, Joseph Kurunthanam, Zacharias Edamula

**Deceased:** Oreth Zorilla, Joseph Portelli, Sylvia Portelli, Mamerto Bolonia Sr, Fatima Bolonia, Gloria Bolonia, Astrid Bolonia, Wennie Guillena, Marylou Geronca, Chona Victorino, Daniel Latorre, Elena Latorre

**Anniversary:** John Ryan, Aileen Sinclair, Mary Moses, Stella Mills

**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.



Please do not put the  
bulletin back in the church.

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## ANTIPHONS & READINGS

### Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 16:6,8

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

### First Reading

Is 45:1.4-6

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me.

I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7

**R Give the Lord glory and honour.**

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. Tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. **R**

The Lord is great and worthy of praise, to be feared above all gods; the gods of the heathens are naught. It was the Lord who made the heavens. **R**

Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power, give the Lord the glory of his name. Bring an offering and enter his courts. **R**

Worship the Lord in his temple. O earth, tremble before him. Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' He will judge the peoples in fairness. **R**

### Second Reading

1 Thes 1:1-5

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in

Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

### Gospel Acclamation

Phil 2:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

Mt 22:15-21

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

### Communion Antiphon

Cf Ps 32:18-19

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

### Next Week's Readings:

1st Reading: Ex 22:20-26

2nd Reading: 1 Thes 1:5-10

Gospel: Mt 22:34-40

## ZOOM Bible Study

**Topic: Formation of the Community of Disciples in the Gospel of Matthew**

Time: 7pm-8pm on Tuesday, 20 October. To join send an email request to [info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au](mailto:info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au) and the link will be send to you.



## REFLECTIONS ON MATTHEW 22:15-21

### Historical Context – What’s in a face?

The question of coinage was a problematic one for first century Jews. The tradition – grounded in the commandments given to Moses on Mt Sinai – forbade the use of ‘graven’ or carved images. The people of Israel took this prohibition very seriously and did not portray the human face in artwork of any kind. Roman coins were minted with the face of the emperor on them and it was compulsory that taxes be paid with Roman coin. This helps to explain the role of the Temple money-changers who converted the Roman coin into Temple coin that could be used for religious purposes.

### Scriptural context – Jesus and the Pharisees

The gospel of Matthew tends to treat the Pharisees rather harshly. In fact they had more in common with Jesus’ style of teaching than other religious groups of the time and some have suggested that Jesus may even have been quite closely associated with the Pharisees. The role of the Pharisees was to interpret the Torah – the Law – for everyday people. They were teachers and preachers who often had a group of disciples who were their followers. The community in which the gospel of Matthew was written regarded the Pharisees harshly because they saw Jesus – not the Pharisees – as the rightful interpreter of the Law.

### Different View – A simple question?

This gospel passage is sometimes interpreted as Jesus’ endorsement of the Christian responsibility to state authorities. It has been interpreted as affirming the obligation to pay taxes and participate in the processes of government. In fact, Jesus neatly avoided the direct question put to him and never gave a response to the question of paying taxes. Rather, he made the question a much broader one and reminded people that their first obligation was to God, not the state. It is an excellent example of the need for critical interpretation of scripture. A simple, literal reading of this text leads us to drawing simple, literal conclusions about whether or not we should be paying taxes.

### Let us exercise our desire in prayer

*A letter to Proba by St Augustine*

Why in our fear of not praying as we should, do we turn to so many things, to find what we should pray for? Why do we not say instead, in the words of the psalm: *I have asked one thing from the Lord, this is what I will seek: to dwell in the Lord’s house all the days of my life, to see the graciousness of the Lord, and to visit his temple?* There, the days do not come and go in succession, and the beginning of one day does not mean the end of another; all days are one, simultaneously and without end, and the life lived out in these days has itself no end.

So that we might obtain this life of happiness, he who is true life itself taught us to pray, not in many words as though speaking longer could gain us a hearing. After all, we pray to one who, as the Lord himself tells us, knows what we need before we ask for it.

Why he should ask us to pray, when he knows what we need before we ask him, may perplex us if we do not realise that our Lord and God does not want to know what we want (for he cannot fail to know it), but wants us rather to exercise our desire through our prayers, so that we may be able to receive what he is preparing to give us. His gift is very great indeed, but our capacity is too small and limited to receive it. That is why we are told: *Enlarge your desires, do not bear the yoke with unbelievers.*

The deeper our faith, the stronger our hope, the greater our desire, the larger will be our capacity to receive that gift, which is very great indeed. *No eye has seen it; it has no colour. No ear has heard it; it has no sound. It has not entered man’s heart; man’s heart must enter into it.*

In this faith, hope and love we pray always with unwearied desire. However, at set times and seasons we also pray to God in words, so that by these signs we may instruct ourselves and mark the progress we have made in our desire, and spur ourselves on to deepen it. The more fervent the desire, the more worthy will be its fruit. When the Apostle tells us: *Pray without ceasing*, he means this: Desire unceasingly that life of happiness which is nothing if not eternal, and ask it of him who alone is able to give it.



This week we welcome into the Catholic faith

**Ameya Mariya Simson**

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



## WHAT'S NEW?

### First Holy Communion

Congratulations to the following children who will receive their First Holy Communion this Saturday, 17 October.

Addison Kassis  
Akeira Adams  
Allegra Caballero - Gracia  
Daniel Tassone  
Edmund Norman  
Fergus Smith  
Jacob Eyers

Jessica Moore  
Joshua Haddad  
Patrick Deehan  
Peter David  
Serena Tupou  
Yves Victorino

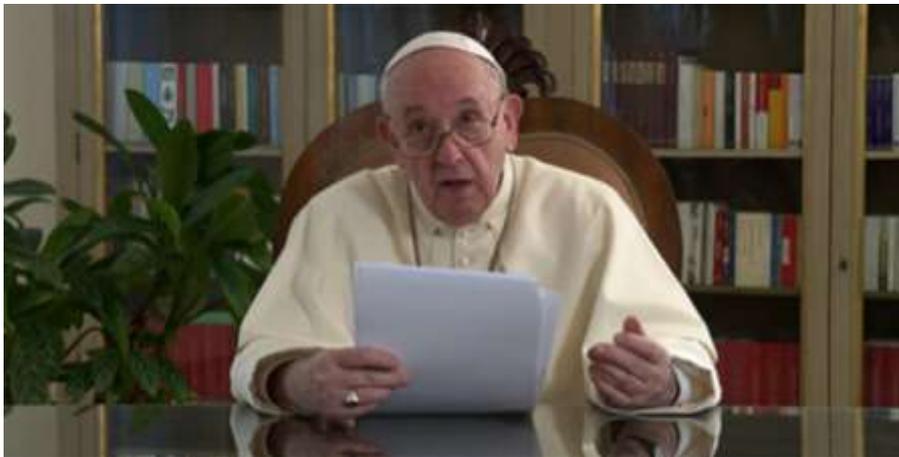


As they welcome Christ into their hearts, we pray that Jesus may guide them all the days of their lives.

~Sophia Brewty, Sacramental Co-ordinator

### Change approach to build a better future: Pope

Published: 16 October 2020



*Pope Francis delivers his video message to participants of the Global Compact on Education yesterday (CNS/Vatican Media)*

Humanity must change course and commit to an educational alliance that ensures a brighter future for young people, Pope Francis said yesterday. Source: *Crux*.

A superficial approach to education that relies solely on “standardised test results, functionality and bureaucracy” and that “confuses education with instruction” must be left behind, the Pope said in a video message to participants at a meeting on the Global Compact on Education.

“The value of our educational practices will be measured not

simply by the results of standardised tests, but by the ability to affect the heart of society and to help give birth to a new culture,” he said. “A different world is possible, and we are called to learn how to build it.”

The Pope launched the Global Compact on Education in 2019 and invited representatives from the world’s religions, international organisations, humanitarian groups, educators and youth to come to the Vatican in May.

However, the event was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic and, instead, a mostly virtual event was held at Rome’s Pontifical Lateran University.

In his video message to participants, the Pope said that “we could never have imagined the situation that has developed” since he first called for the alliance.

The poverty and confusion wrought by the pandemic have created a situation that requires a radical decision and opens a path for “a global pact on education for and with future generations,” the Pope said. “The ability to create harmony: that is what is needed today,” he said.

### 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!

## Unbroken Chain of Rosary



Image credit: catholictradition.org

### Why October is the Month of the Rosary?

Because of the COVID19 pandemic, October, the rosary month this year is especially significant to all of us. Let us not underestimate the power of Rosary prayer in this time of need.

The dedication of the month of October to the Rosary devotion is the aftermath of the Christians of Western Europe resisting the expansion attempt of the Islamic Ottoman Empire, in 16th century

On October 7, 1571, Holy League of Christians confronted Ottoman Turks in a pivotal maritime battle. The fate of western Europe depended upon the success of Christians in this navy battle, which involved more than 400 warships.

Pius V, the Pope then, knew he needed more than just military strength to defend Christian Europe, so he asked that all the faithful pray the rosary, requesting the intercession of the Blessed Mother. At the end of the Battle of Lepanto, the Holy League was victorious and the maritime expansion of the Ottoman Empire was permanently prevented. The next year, Pius V established a feast on October 7 in honour of the Blessed Mother, the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

The rosary is a living prayer form and used as family prayer in many cultures. I grew up praying rosary with parents and siblings daily.

The rosary is an invitation to experience the grace of Mary's spiritual motherhood as she leads us to her Son, Jesus. In 2002 Pope John Paul II added a new set of five reflections called the Luminous Mysteries which encourage additional meditations on the life of Jesus.

A group of mostly young parents have come forward to do an unbroken chain of rosary in the month of October. They are happy to welcome all interested people to join the roster for the October Rosary. By messaging your preferred time to Brobin on +61 410 065 253 or emailing [kuttan.f@gmail.com](mailto:kuttan.f@gmail.com), you too can join the unbroken chain of Rosary in the Month of October. Let pray the intercession of Our Lady, especially for those who are affected by the COVID19 pandemic.

### 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](mailto: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.

Do you need help  
finding help?

Relationships. Parenting. Ageing.  
Disabilities. Addictions. Mental Health.



CCareline 131819

A free and confidential helpline.

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

[CCareline.org](http://CCareline.org)

8am – 6pm Monday – Friday

## 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)

## 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.

### Silent Retreat for Women

Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola | Date: 26 - 31 October 2020 | \$550.00 per person Accommodation + Meals + Fee | Emmanuel Centre. 123 Abbott St. Newstead – Tasmania

### 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](http://www.engagedencounter.org.au). Choose any of the coming weekends: Nov 7-8, Feb 20-21.

### 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](mailto: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.

### Healing after Abortion

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries Weekend Retreat offers women and men a sanctuary in which to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion in a safe, supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment. The next healing retreat will be held 4-6 December 2020. Join in an Online Reflection - Called to Life - a confidential free online individually guided reflection at a time to suit you. Please enquire about these programs at Rachel's Vineyard Ministries on their confidential number (voice mail): 0400 092 555 – more info at [www.rachelsvineyard.org.au](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org.au).

### The Catholic Weekly has gone Digital!

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## 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.

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## 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 90<sup>th</sup> 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.