



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/UCBeralaParish)

Holy Mass: Monday to Friday 6.45am, Saturday 8.00am | **Holy Hour:** Saturday 8.30am-9.30am

Lord's Day Mass : Saturday 5.00pm Vigil - LiveStreamed, Sunday 8.00am & 10.00am

Reconciliation: 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.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

2 MAY 2021

Dryness Produces a Better You

I love good red wine. The quality of wine depends on how the grape vines are treated. Letting it grow wild, especially with lots of water supply is not the best for quality wines. A bit of dry weather and a lot of pruning go a long way in producing better quality wine. With all the summer rain we had this year, the produce of this year may not be the best. A three year old East Australian produce would be better, because it was a dry year then. The Gospel says that there are lessons to be learned from grape vines and wine. Wine and vineyards are metaphors used in Old Testament as well.



Prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel likened Israel to a vineyard planted and tendered by God himself. Psalm 80:8-15 also uses the metaphor of vine. In all these it is the Lord who planted and tended the good vine. But because of the neglect of the chosen people of Israel, they became like an abandoned vineyard, crying out to the Lord to come and tender it again. Jesus according to John's Gospel (Jn 15:1-8) promises that the Father in heaven is now tending the vineyard. Jesus himself is the vine.

For us who live in a time after the death and resurrection of the man Jesus, it is the Church is that vine. Church as the Body of Christ is the physical presence of Jesus now. Therefore when the Gospel says, "abide in me", it means abide in the Church to produce fruits. New disciples who share Easter joy are the fruits we are looking for. Cut off from the 'vine' – the Church – you the branches are the lapsed Christians who are unable to produce any fruits.

At a personal level, Christians are to be pruned. The current pandemic, personal loss of loved ones, broken marriage, job loss, health concerns, and such others unpleasant experiences could prune your spiritual life, making you all the more attached to the 'vine', Jesus. It is in your weakness and brokenness that you find it easier to trust in God. It may make you a more compassionate and generous person. That way you allow the life sap of Jesus to flow into the branches, other members of your community. Without making Jesus the centre of your life, the joy of the Gospel will not flourish in you. Let no dryness or pruning all you from becoming a fruitful disciple of Christ.



This weekend we have the CWF collection.

The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) is a centralised fund that supports the charitable and pastoral activities of the Archdiocese of Sydney. It is your charity, the charity of the Sydney Catholic community and your local parish. The CWF funds the following ministries: CatholicCare, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD), Ephpheta Centre, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, The Seminaries, Chaplaincies.

The target to for the parish to raise is \$6650

Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible. Your generous donation no matter how great or small will make a difference in someone's life.

DONATE

Scan the QR Code to make a donation.
Thank you for your generosity!



USE QR CODE AT THE DOOR TO SIGN IN

For those who do not have a smartphone, you can still sign in using the paper form. But that will be an exception, rather than norm.

Parish Priest

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

Priest in Residence

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

Parish Secretary

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

Sacramental Co-ordinator

Sophia Brewty
 Tue & Wed 10am-3pm
 sacraments@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

Catholic Inquiry—RCIA

Andrew Tham 0403 566 001

Pastoral Council

Daniel Boland (Chair), Joe Kristianto, (Vice.
 Chair) Alicia Moore (Sec), Rosalind Evans
 (Asst Sec), Gai Melville (SJW), Jenny Makerry
 (SJW), Jenny Michael, Katrina Yip, Nathasha
 Ellis (SJW), Renee Salar, William Andrews

Finance Committee

John Le Mottee (Chair)
 T. (02) 9644 8859
 Joe Moses, Sylvia Jukic 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 - Natasha Ellis

CatholicCare. Provides caring advice and
 advocacy to help families . CCareline 13 18
 19 | CatholicCare.org

Alcohol & Drug Information Service:
 (Confidential) 02 9361 8000

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

Vincentian 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 Ph: 9699 8190

PARISH DIARY THIS WEEK

Mon 3/5	6.45am	Mass
Tue 4/5	6.45am	Mass
Wed 5/5	6.45am 7.00pm	Mass Called & Chosen
Thu 6/5	6.45am 10.00AM	Mass BARM—Berala Association of Rosary Makers (Jubilee Hall)
Fri 7/5	6.45am	Mass
Sat 8/5	8.00am 8.30am 5.00pm	Mass Rosary Adoration, Confession Vigil Mass
Sun 9/5	8.00am 10.00am	Mass Mass



*"Family that pray together
 stay together"*
PILGRIM STATUE

FROM ST PETER CHANEL
 at Javier Family
 39 Fifth Avenue, Berala

*Please join them any evening from 1 May
 2021 at 7.30pm for the Rosary.*

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

From Legion of Mary, Berala
 Mitchell Home

To host the Rosary Statue Legion of
 Mary, Berala call
 Phil Lopez on 9646 1756.

9 MAY SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mass	VIGIL	8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	William ANDREWS	Charlie SCULLY	Trevor BREWTY
MUSIC & SINGING	PARISH CHOIR		SACRED HEART CHOIR
LECTOR/S	Joy SKERRITT	Michael CHOW	Joshua LU
	Noeline DONNELLAN	Maris MARSH	Hilary RIOFRIO
CHURCH SHOP	Joseph LAHOUD	Catherine MCGINN	Margaret THAM
HOSPITALITY		Jenny MICHAEL	

Cleaners SPC : Marian
 Rosary Group

Group 5 Carol Mabon, Maria Wood

Saturday 8AM 8 MAY

LECTOR FOR MASS Christine Kensey

MASS INTENTIONS

Sick: Graham Turner, Theo
 Bergstedt, Tony Michael, Doreen
 Stanmore, Jacinta Moses, Kathleen
 Cassie Resuello, Melchor dela Cruz Jr,
 Angelia dela Cruz, Clarita Naumanen,
 Jane Aquino, Corazon Lopez,
 Kathleen Goh, Luke Cukar

Recently Deceased: Gertrude
 D'Souza, Lee Pui Keng, Vlado Barcan

Deceased: Corazon Eamiguel, Gloria
 Eamiguel, Ramon Eamiguel, Cenon
 Alinson, Basilisa Alinson, Ren Alinson,
 Anthony Gomes, Fatima Bolonia,
 Gloria Bolonia, Consuelo Ibardolaza,
 William Clifford, Albert Wheeler

Anniversary: Carmen Amores,
 Marcelo Amores, Anita Avila, Joe
 Piscalbo, Althea Figueras

Deceased Members and Friends of:
 Alinson Family, Eamiguel Family, Mari
 Family, Yburan Family, Abellina
 Family, Gonzales Family

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

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord,
 and let the perpetual light shine
 upon them. May they rest in peace.
 Amen.*

ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

First Reading

Acts 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever! **R**

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him. They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **R**

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.' **R**

Second Reading

1 Jn 3:18-24

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere

talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf Jn 15:1,5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

Next Week's Readings:

1st Reading: **10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48**

2nd Reading: **1 Jn 4:7-10**

Gospel: **Jn 15:9-17**

REFLECTIONS ON JOHN 15:1-8

Living the Gospel – Bearing fruit

The vinedresser of this passage cuts away the dead branches and prunes back those that are not bearing fruit. In what way do we bear fruit? When we strive to reach our fullest potential in whatever we do, we bear fruit. When we act out of motivation for the other person rather than ourselves, we bear fruit. When we strive to bring about the reign of God in our small part of the world, we bear fruit. Sometimes we too need to have some of our thoughts and actions pruned so that we might better bear the fruit that we are truly capable of producing.

Scriptural context – In context

The imagery that Jesus used in his parables and in extended metaphors such as the one used in this week's gospel sometimes seems a little foreign to a 21st century audience. However, the world in which Jesus lived and taught was dominated by small scale farmers and producers in an agrarian economy. His use of images such as 'shepherd', 'vine', 'tenants', 'farmers' and 'wineskins' would all have been immediately recognisable to his audience. They would also have appreciated much more than we do the subtlety of Jesus' use of such images when he twists them in an unexpected way.

Historical Context – The 'True' vine

The image of the vine has its origins in Psalm 80 where the nation of Israel is likened to a vine: 'You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.' (Ps 80:8-9) However, the people of Israel have forgotten who they are and who it was that planted them in their country – it is like the rootstock of a grafted plant has taken over and gone wild. Jesus' presence as the 'true vine' reminds them of what they are called to be.

The worldwide activity of man

From "Church in the Modern World", pastoral constitution, the Second Vatican Council

By his labour and abilities man has always striven to improve the quality of his life. Today, particularly by means of science and technology, he has extended his mastery over almost the whole of nature, and still continues to extend it. Through the development of the many means of communication among nations, the human family is coming to see itself, and establish itself, as a single worldwide community. As a result, where formerly man looked especially to supernatural forces for blessings, he now secures many of these benefits for himself, thanks to his own efforts.

In the face of this vast enterprise now engaging the whole human race, men are asking themselves a series of questions. What is the meaning and value of all this activity? How should these benefits be used? Where are the efforts of individuals and communities finally leading us?

The Church is the guardian of the deposit of God's word, from which are drawn the principles of the religious and moral order. Without always having a ready answer to every question, the Church desires to integrate the light of revelation with the skilled knowledge of mankind, so that it may shine on the path which humanity has lately entered.

Those who believe in God take it for granted that, taken by itself, man's activity, both individual and collective – that great struggle in which men in the course of the ages have sought to improve the conditions of human living – is in keeping with God's purpose.

Man, created in God's image, has been commissioned to master the earth and all it contains, and so rule the world in justice and holiness. He is to acknowledge God as the creator of all, and to see himself and the whole universe in relation to God, in order that all things may be subject to man, and God's name be an object of wonder and praise over all the earth.

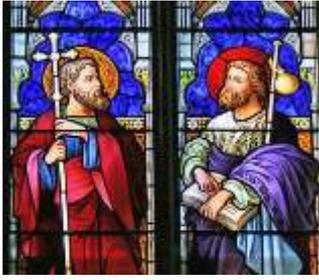
This commission extends to even the most ordinary activities of everyday life. Where men and women, in the course of gaining a livelihood for themselves and their families, offer appropriate service to society, they can be confident that their personal efforts promote the work of the Creator, confer benefit on their fellow-men, and help to realise God's plan in history.

So far from thinking that the achievements gained by man's abilities and strength are in opposition to God's power, or that man with his intelligence is in some sense a rival to his Creator, Christians are, on the contrary, convinced that the triumphs of the human race are a sign of God's greatness and the effect of his wonderful providence.

The more the power of men increases, the wider is the scope of their responsibilities, as individuals and as communities.

It is clear, then, that the Christian message does not deflect men from the building up of the world, or encourage them to neglect the good of their fellow-men, but rather places on them a stricter obligation to work for these objectives.

FEASTS & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK



Monday, 3 May - Sts Philip & James, apostles (Feast)

Bethsaida in Galilee, became a disciple of Jesus and one of the twelve. Recorded in the Fourth Gospel as recognising in Jesus the one foretold by Moses and the prophets (John 1:45) and as introducing Gentiles to the Lord (John 12:20-22). According to Acts 8:5, he was the first to preach the gospel to non-Jews. James, son of Alphaeus, was also one of the twelve called by Jesus (Mark 3:18ff). Known as James the Less. Venerated traditionally as the author of the letter of James and as leader of the Church in Jerusalem, where he died in the year 62. The joint feast of Philip and James has been celebrated in Rome since at least the sixth century

Mass of the Feast at 6.45am.

PARISH NOTICES

Mass Count



Our parish, along with all Catholic parishes in Australia, is invited to undertake the five-yearly National Count of Attendance this month. Held every five years since 2001, the project is a simple head count of all attenders at all parishes across Australia over the four weekends of May. The National Count of Attendance is held in the same year as the Australian Census, which will take place in August. National Centre for Pastoral Research director Trudy Dantis said that it allows for information gathered from the two projects to be analysed together.

CatholicCare Partnership with the Parish

I have always been looking greater and enhanced out reach for people in need of various assistance, like housing, domestic issues, mental problems, and such. I am pleased that now CatholicCare has a new initiative to partnership with Parishes in Sydney. So far Liverpool and Fairfield parishes have successfully established the pilot programs. I invited CatholicCare representatives to speak about the program to the first meeting of the Pastoral Council this year. Since then I have had a few more meetings with them. We are working on employing a trained person one a week in the parish. The goal of this program is seven fold.



- Break down barriers in understanding, accessing and navigating community support services
- Provide advocacy for people most in need.
- Increase community knowledge of support services.
- Reduce social isolation, meaningfully connect individuals, and help them become active participants within the broader community.
- Build the Parish's capacity to respond to those in need.
- Connect the parish to the wider community.
- Evangelisation through serving the community.
-

The parish will be soliciting grants and fundraising to finance this initiative.

This parish program will be taken to Pastoral Council and Finance Committee again for their advice. I hope that this Parish Program can be commenced in July this year.

~Fr Thomas

Youth Festival

Along with the Parish festivities in the week of its Patron Saints, St Peter Chanel, and St Joseph the Worker, SPC School sponsored a Youth Festival. It was well attended and brought about a lot of joy and enthusiasm. Some pictures from the Festival can be viewed on SPC School FaceBook. More of such festivals and 'Called Chosen' gatherings are to be planned for the rest of the year. Parents may keep their eyes out for more info and invitations.

Adult Confirmation Only

Any adult wanting to be confirmed please contact Fr Thomas.

New RCIA

There are always people making inquiries about becoming Catholics. A new program of RCIA will be commencing in the Parish this year.

Anyone interested in the Catholic Church and faith is welcome to contact the Parish Office on 9644 7787 or info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au.

Fr Thomas will be meeting with the applicants before a suitable program of instructions is presented.



One of our Neophytes - Edwin Kong, with Katrina Yip, Bishop Umbers & his sponsors after the special mass for them at the Cathedral

We invite you...

Called & Chosen

Fellowship, prayer, and learning for the whole family

When: 5 May 2021, 6PM - 8PM

Where: St. Peter Chanel & St. Joseph Parish, Berala

RSVP: sacraments@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au
(by 1 May)

We hope your whole family can join us for this event. The evening will consist of dinner (6PM), breakout faith formation sessions (6:30-7:15), and Eucharistic Adoration.



Novena to St Joseph

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities. O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

OTHER NOTICES

Love & Truth Marriage Weekend

A wonderful Marriage Enrichment opportunity is coming up on the weekend of 26/27 June at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre Varrowville! For more info: contact Bernadette on 0423102066 or at emmanueldevents@gmail.com Please register by 12th June 2021 by heading to www.trybooking.com/BQDLQ

Christian Meditation Day- Sunday 16 May

Where: St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia
Time: 10am-3pm (including a Mass in the afternoon). No need to register ahead of time. Donations welcome.
Enquiries: Ann Bergman: anniebergman@hotmail.com or Ann Lomas: atlomas@bigpond.com or 9653 2637.

The 2021 Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation course, Of Life and Love

Saturday 14 August commencing at 10 am and then Thursday evenings 19, 26 August & 02 September 2021
To Book Online - <https://www.trybooking.com/BMTLF>
For further info, please contact - The Life, Marriage and Family team on (02) 9307 8480 or e-mail steven.buhagiar@sydneycatholic.org.

CatholicCare outreach to the lonely and isolated

If you are struggling and need help or support, or you are worried about someone else, please call CCareline on 13 18 19.