



## 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](mailto:info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au)  
**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)

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

**19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** **St Mary of the Cross MacKillop**

**8 AUGUST 2021**

### Mary is good for me



Life is full of UFOs – Un-Finished Objectives. There is always a long shopping list. ‘*I want a new car, I want to buy a bigger, better house, I want this, I want that*’. The list is unending. It seems to say that ‘*what you buy is what you are*’. People are so crazy after luxury goods and it is making people anxious, worried, and fatigued. In this race to satisfy self-appetite you forget to appreciate the real joy in life. If you can walk on to the street and greet someone with a smile and a kind word, it would give a lot more joy than a racing car. More people would be saying what a beautiful person you are because of your kindness to them than any high-end fashion pieces you wear. A good examination of conscience and a prayer will give you much better sleep than any sleeping pill would.



There is much more to life than satisfying your self-appetite. Human life, as it is God given, is meant to reach out to others in love and compassion. Life is too precious to be confined to a few luxuries. Looking through the dollar glasses you will not see the true colour of life. Jesus in his sermon on the Mount said, “*So do not worry; do not say, “What are we to eat? What are we to drink? What are we to wear?” Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on God’s saving justice, and all these other things will be given you as well”.* (Ref Matthew 6:25-34)

Today, 8th August is the feast of somebody who was wise enough to make her life truly rich and memorable. It is Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Her life was so full and real that her name is not forgotten even over a century after her death. Through works of charity and trusting prayers, she won favour before humans and God. Though she was never short of troubles and deprivations, Mary’s life was made up of goodness. The way she witnessed to God’s goodness is good for me. How about you?

### MASS INTENTIONS

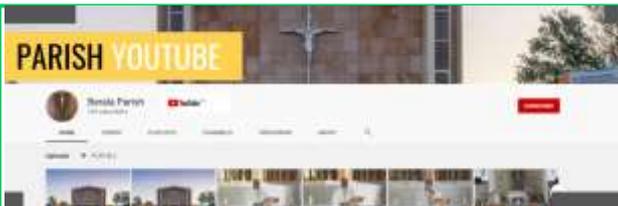
**Sick:** Graham Turner, Theo Bergstedt, Tony Michael, Doreen Stanmore, Sally Castell, Mamerto Bolonia Jr, Lily Bykowski, Tom Burke

**Recently Deceased:** Teresita Mortillero, Cecile Cook

**Deceased:** Valerie De Souza, Norma Grey

**Anniversary:** Helen Kenny

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



Join us on Saturday at 5PM  
for the Sunday Vigil Mass

**@BeralaParish** YouTube Channel

Don't forget to subscribe & switch the notification bell on.

### DONATE

Scan the QR Code to make a  
donation.

Thank you for your generosity!



**Church is Closed During  
Lockdown Period  
STAY SAFE!**

## NEWS

### 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), William Andrews, Amanda Gahan,  
Susie Mravunac, Phil Townsend

### 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.jamberoobbey.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

## Thanks for Your Support of the Clergy

Last week I told you about the measures taken to manage priest's expenses in the context of reduced income. The response to the notice was encouraging. A number of you made donation to 1st Collection (and 2nd Collection) and what was more heart-warming was the number of care packages I received. Thank you for your concern for your priest. Now I also receive Disaster Assistance from Centrelink. A combination of these is helping to manage the normal expense of



the presbytery. Should you wish to set up periodic deduction, send an email and Lea will help you to organise it. You can always make one off payment using MAKE A PAYMENT button on the parish website.

## Family/Group Mass

Lockdown is extended which means it will be a long time to go without being able to gather for Mass. Sunday Masses are available on the YouTube channel BERALA PARISH. Should anyone would like to offer a Mass and attend it alone or with others, it is possible using ZOOM platform.

Please contact me on info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au to organise special group Masses.



## Parish Family Worker

After the lockdown is eased, the Parish is planning to employ a Parish Family Worker in conjunction with CatholicCare. The PFW is to assist individuals to improve their well-being and access to support services. The program is to provide advice and referral service offering advocacy, support and referral to help people with relationships, parenting, disabilities, ageing, addictions, mental health and adjacent concerns.

## Plenary Council of Australia

The fifth Plenary Council of Australia is to take place in October. It would have been ideal to prepare a response as a parish for the Council. Unfortunately, it is not possible in this lockdown situation. Therefore, I invite you to make your responses directly to Sr Jo Brady. Please see the related document to help you formulate and convey the response. God bless you!

~Fr Thomas

### Response to the Agenda for Assembly in October

FIFTH PLENARY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

## AGENDA

As children of God, disciples of Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, the Members of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia are called to develop concrete proposals to create a more missionary, Christ-centred Church in Australia at this time.

*'I dream of a "missionary option", that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelisation of today's world rather than for her self-preservation.'*

*Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium 27*



Review the questions under the headings and then select the three most important areas from your perspective or from that of your parish group. You may respond to each area if you or your group wish to do so. In providing your responses within the boxes below, we encourage you to consider this question:

What concrete proposals do you suggest at this time?

Please email your response as soon as possible to: Sr. Jo Brady, [Plenary Council Working Group Liaison Support Officer](mailto:jo.brady@sydneycatholic.org), Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney - [jo.brady@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:jo.brady@sydneycatholic.org)

Name: .....

Parish.....

Conversion

Prayer

Governance

Formation

Structures

Institutions



## FOOD FOR FRIENDS

Feeling unwell?  
Short on cash?  
Busy juggling work and  
remote learning?

If you need a home cooked  
meal for any reason please  
contact the school or  
Parish. No explanation  
needed.

Your choice of yummy  
dishes for the family



To organise your meal or for donations contact

St Peter Chanel Catholic Primary School - 96449083 or [amanda.gahan@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:amanda.gahan@syd.catholic.edu.au)

St Peter Chanel & St Joesph Parish - 96447787

## ANTIPHONS & READINGS

### Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Mt 25:34,36,40

Come, you blessed of my Father, says the Lord: I was sick and you visited me. Amen, I say to you: whatever you did for one of the least of my brethren, you did it for me.

### First Reading

1 Kgs 17:7-16

And then the word of the Lord came to Elijah, 'Up and go to Zarephath, a Sidonian town, and stay there. I have ordered a widow there to give you food.' So he went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks. Addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please,' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 623:1-8

**My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.**

O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. **R**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. **R**

So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R**

On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **R**

### Second Reading

Col 3:12-17

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you,

and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### Gospel Acclamation

Mt 27:55

Alleluia, alleluia!

Many women were there by the cross, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus and looked after him.

Alleluia!

### Gospel

Mt 6:25-34

Jesus said to his disciples:

I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and what you are to wear. Surely life is more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, however much you worry, add one single cubit to your span of life? And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin: yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the wild flowers growing in the field which are there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you have so little faith? So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? What are we to wear?" It is the gentiles who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on God's saving justice, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

### Communion Antiphon

Cf Jn 13:35

This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another, says the Lord.

**Next Week's Readings:**

1st Reading: **Rv 11:19, 12:1-6, 10**

2nd Reading: **1 Cor 15:20-26**

Gospel: **Lk 1:39-56**

**REFLECTIONS ON MATTHEW 6:25-34**

**Historical Context - Mary MacKillop**

Mary MacKillop is not only the first Australian to be recognised by the Church as a Saint, she is truly a very Australian saint. She characterises the spirit of the Australian mythology. She was a prodigious hard worker who put the needs of others before herself. She exhibited something of the larrikin spirit: constantly in dispute with authority but pressing on, regardless. She used the strengths of others but also didn't tolerate those who were not genuine. Her commitment to the schooling of children from poor and rural communities established a model of Catholic education that continues to today. A Saint for and of Australia!

**Scriptural Context - The Sermon on the Mount**

Often, the Sermon on the Mount is understood purely as the Beatitudes (Mt 5:3-12), but in the gospel of Matthew this sermon stretches over all of chapters 5 to 7. These chapters provide a solid core of the explicit teaching ministry of Jesus in this gospel. The gospel writer begins the section with the Beatitudes and then, in a very Jewish style, presents Jesus as a rabbinic teacher reinterpreting and refocusing the Law of Moses for his listeners. Unlike the parables that are more familiar, this portion of the gospel seeks to spell out some very explicit teachings of Jesus about life and the kingdom.

**Living the Gospel - Don't be distracted**

When we read in today's gospel that we are "not to worry", the word, *worry*, might better be translated as *distracted*. Jesus says to not be distracted or consumed by the pursuit of money, food and nice clothes. He says that it is the gentiles – those who do not know the love of God – who set their hearts on attaining these things. We are immersed in a culture in society that values these outward signs of success above all else. The challenge is to avoid being caught up in the *distractions* of our material society. One way to do that is through regular prayer and reflection.

**FEAST & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK**



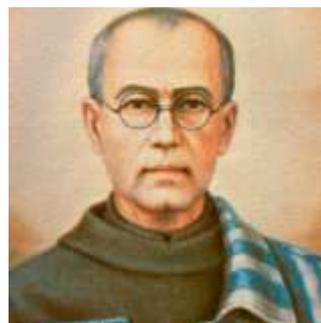
**Tuesday, 10 August - St Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr (Feast)**

Died at Rome on this day in 258, four days after Saint Sixtus II (7 August), with whom he was closely associated. Honoured for his almsgiving. Became, after the apostles, the most celebrated martyr of the Church of Rome. His cult spread throughout the Church from the fourth century. Remembered in Eucharistic Prayer I (The Roman Canon), and in five ancient Roman churches dedicated to him.



**Wednesday, 11 August - St Clare (Feast)**

Born at Assisi (Italy) in 1193 or 1194. Died there on this day in 1253. From a well-to-do family, Clare embraced an evangelical way of life after hearing the preaching of Saint Francis of Assisi (4 October). Founded the order of the Poor Ladies, now the Poor Clares. Remembered for her life of extreme poverty, austerity, contemplation, and charity.



**Saturday, 14 August - St Maximilian Mary Kolbe (Memorial)**

Born near Łódź (Poland) in 1894. Died at Auschwitz /Oswiecim on this day in 1941. A Conventual Franciscan priest. Used the printing press in Poland and in Japan to promote devotion to the Virgin Mary. Interned in Auschwitz in 1941, he endured hard labour and offered his life in place of a fellow prisoner who had a family. Condemned to death by starvation and finally killed by lethal injection. Remembered for his energy and poverty, his compassionate ministry, and his self-sacrifice.

## From a letter of Mary MacKillop to Monsignor Kirby

Oh, Father, I cannot tell you what a beautiful thing the will of God seems to me. For some years past, my Communion, my prayers, my intentions have all been for God's will to be done. I can never pray for a particular intention, a particular person, or anything particular about our own Institute, but in God's loved will, that is – whilst I desire with all my heart to pray for these, I cannot help at the same time desiring that He only use my prayers for the intention that His own will most desires at this time. Thus I feel a joy when things go well, for I see His will in this, and an equal joy when they seem to go wrong or against our natural desire, for there again I see His will, and am satisfied that He has accepted my prayers and those of many more for some other object at the time nearer to His adorable will.

To me, the will of God is a dear book which I am never tired of reading, which has always some new charm for me. Nothing is too little to be noticed there, but yet my littleness and nothingness has often dared to oppose it, and I am painfully conscious that in many ways I still in my tepidity offend against it without perceiving what I am doing. But such dear lessons as you gave me the other evening then come to my aid and encourage me, for the love of my sweet Jesus is too strong, too beautiful, and His merits too great, for me not to cling to Him.



### Prayer to St Mary of the Cross, MacKillop

*Ever generous God,*

*You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop*

*To live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and constant in bringing hope and encouragement to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.*

*With confidence in your generous providence and through the intercession of Saint Mary MacKillop. We ask that you grant our request.....*

*We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit so that we too, like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage, trust and openness.*

*Ever generous God hear our prayer.*

*We ask this through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

## OTHER NOTICES

### Jamberoo Abbey Online Retreat

Retreat about hope to be held on Sunday, 5 September. There are 6 conferences with two being uploaded each week. The cost is \$250. Pensioner discount applies. To check and register visit [jamberooabbey.org.au/restreats/online-retreats/](http://jamberooabbey.org.au/restreats/online-retreats/)

### Aid to the Church in Need Australia

Especially in remote and non-Christian areas, the faith is often nurtured via faith-based TV and radio programs. For over thirty years ACN has supported the *Catholic Radio* and *Television Network* which provides programming to networks in developing countries which do not have the means to buy or produce Catholic content. These programs are seen and heard by about 36 million people worldwide every day. Can you help ensure that the faith is available in every corner of the world? Visit [www.aidtochurch.org/media](http://www.aidtochurch.org/media)

### A Mind at Peace: An Online Book Study with Discussion and Sharing

Life, Marriage and Family team member Chris Da Silva facilitates, over ZOOM, an in-depth study of a book which will help those who are feeling especially anxious

during this time of uncertainly and trial | Wednesdays 14, 21, 28 July and 4, 11, 18 August 7:30 PM. Online via ZOOM Register here - <https://bit.ly/3kti2vF>  
To register go to <https://www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/> or for more information contact Tania Rimac at [tania.rimac@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:tania.rimac@sydneycatholic.org).

### 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>

### 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. [www.engagedencounter.org.au](http://www.engagedencounter.org.au). Aug 7-8, Nov 13-14 2021; Feb 19-20 2022.

If COVID-19 restrictions prevent a face-to-face seminar, the CEE weekend will be held via Zoom.

### Just for Laughs

The boss said I should go home because I really don't look good.  
I don't know if I should be happy to get the extra rest, or just offended.