



The Balfra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

6th & 7th January 2018

Is 60:1-6; Ps 71; Eph 3:2-3,5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Sunday 7 January <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass
Monday 8 January <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>	NO MORNING MASS 10.30 Robyn Kopp Funeral Service
Tuesday 9 January	NO MORNING MASS
Wednesday 10 January	NO MORNING MASS 9.00am Pastoral Care Meeting M/R 7.00pm Bridge P/C
Thursday 11 January	NO MORNING MASS 1.30pm Bridge. P/C
Friday 12 January	NO MORNING MASS 1.30 Bowlers P/C
Saturday 13 January	NO MORNING MASS 4.45pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 14 January <i>2nd Sunday in Ordinary time Year B</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass

We wish all our Parishioners and visitors a Happy New Year and ask God to bless you and your families in 2018

During January and early February, Fr Jolly will be in India for his annual holidays, so we welcome back Fr Robert Anderson to our Parish for all the weekend Masses.

Reflection on the Gospel

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers, probably from Syria or Iraq.



They believed that the stars controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the amazing discovery of a star-child in Bethlehem. They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they realised that the stars did not control *this* infant, but that there was something of this baby which caused the night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child. Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth.

As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth. We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: 'the Love which moves the sun and other stars'. Come, let us adore him.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

URGENT REQUESTS: We need a **Warden** for the 1st Sunday of the month 9.30am Mass & **Junior Servers** for different Masses. If you can help, please contact the Parish Office on 47398928. Thank you

WELCOME all visitors to our church today. We extend our greetings to you. If you wish to join St Finbar's Parish, please make yourself known to one of our Wardens so we can give you our Parish Welcome Pack.

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

To the Community of St Finbar's Parish we wish to say a very big Thank You for your support of Geoff and our family, particularly over the last two years. We felt comforted by the words from Fr Jolly at the celebration of Geoff's life, the work of the musicians, the kindness of people who provided food for so many, and all the support given to us by the whole community. Geoff received strength from the love and care given to him, I am sure he is now singing the praises of St Finbar's to all. Thank you
Bernadette Shalala & family

A BIG THANK YOU to all the Parishioners and others who helped cook, prepare, serve and clean at Geoff Shalala's Funeral last week. Your hard work and great effort is highly appreciated. We need more volunteers to help on Funerals and different occasions. If you like to join the Church Pastoral Care team, please email the Parish office on secretary@stfinbars.org.au. Thank you. Maire Griffin.

HOLY COMMUNION AT VIGIL MASSES. From the start of the next roster on 3rd February, Fr Jolly would like to only have four Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion rostered at each Vigil Mass. This means we will need to re-arrange these rosters from this date. So that we know your intentions, please indicate in a call or email the parish office your commitment to being an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at the Vigil Masses in the next roster. We will only roster those who commit to this roster by **10th January**. There are lots of vacancies at the 9:30am Mass so you can transfer to that roster if you wish. Thank you.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT: Please note that Ash Wednesday is on the 14th of February this year. The Church will have the Stations of the Cross every Friday evening at 7.15pm followed by Mass at 7.30pm starting Friday the 16th of February and all through Lent.

THE NEW ROSTERS from February 2018 to July 2018 will be sent out before the end of January to those who have emails. If you do not receive yours for your ministry and you do have an email address, please contact the Parish Office, and one will be sent to you. If you do NOT have an email, please take a copy from the table in the Narthex. Thank you once again. Juliana

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Robyn Kopp, Joy Serne', Geoff Shalala, Mary Cockburn, George Chacko (Father Jolly's Uncle), Margaret Egan (Norbert Egan's wife), Stephen Hutchins, Marjory Etherington, Terence McGrath, Anne Bell, Jack Mullane (John's Father), Iris Davies, Lynette Fernandes (Ahyiesha D'Souza Mum), Cliff McHardy, Stan Currey, Tony Visser and Baby Valentina Twyford.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Olive O'Neill (Cath Newton's mum), Ken Moore, Mary Ann Manalili, Lyn Downes, Ellen Moffitt, Jane Bloor, Ena Baker, Terry Stevens, Jeff Dean, Grant Madden, Pam Clyne, Jacqui Visser, Jan Smith, Joan Lohrey, Joanne Macrae, Carmel Quilty Malone, John Roebuck, Colleen Nolan, Maddison Farrugia, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Shirley Glover, Little Majella, Mary Cockburn (Catherine Beattie's Mother) and Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Margaret Buckler, Terry Buckler, Jonathan Murray, Christopher Appleton, Patrick Dempster, Francis Amaral, Geoffrey Clayton, Robert Pope, Phillip Dowding, Lyndsay Walmsley, Patrick Egan, Lesly Whitford and Lachlan Turnbull.

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to love,
and then to
part is the..."



...saddest
journey of
the human
heart"

**LEURA MEMORIAL
GARDENS FUNERALS**

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

OFFICE FOR WORSHIP | DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA. LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES 2018

Father Jolly and the Liturgy Committee invite your consideration to become a trained liturgical minister and to assist the Parish in one of the ministries listed below. This will be very much appreciated! The liturgical ministry courses are being offered at :

1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown (B), (Diocesan Assembly Centre) between 12th February & 7th May at 7.00pm.

St. Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith, (P), Meeting Room 1, between 15th February & 10th May at 7.00pm.

You would only need to attend the **ONE** location, either at Blacktown or at Penrith.

Compulsory Introductory Session (12/2 B; 15/2 P)

Minister of the Word (19/2 and 26/2 B; 22/2 and 1/3 P)

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (5/3 and 12/3 B; 8/3 and 15/3 P)

Communion to the Sick and Dying (Must also attend the above course): (9/4 B and 12/4 P)

Senior Altar Servers & Acolytes (Must attend **all 8** courses): (30/4 and 7/5 B; 3/5 and 10/5 P)

Enrolment forms are available from the Wardens Table. Please complete and return to the Parish Office.

Thank you Chris Wilson (Director), Margaret Hickey, singers and musicians for the beautiful singing of Christmas carols, both well-known and modern, at St. Thomas Aquinas, Springwood on 18th December. A most enjoyable evening, and we look forward to your music and singing again in December 2018! Jan de Bie and Beth Culliver.

THE 9TH WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES WITH POPE FRANCIS: DUBLIN AUGUST 2018

The theme of this year's World Meeting is "The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World".

7th of January - The year ahead is an opportunity to change the conversation, to focus instead on the global issues, the common human values and mutual interest between Church and society that converge in working together for the wellbeing of the family. (Fr Tim Bartlett)

14th of January - Our teaching on marriage and the family cannot fail to be inspired by the message of love and tenderness. (Pope Francis)

21st of January - The family is one of the primary places where the encounter with the love of God and day to day life takes place. (Archbishop Diarmuid Martin)

28th of January - To form a family is to be a part of God's dream, to join him in building a world where no one will feel alone. (Pope Francis).

These weekly thoughts are to assist us to pray for the success of this World event.

The world meeting is also seeking hundreds of volunteers to help in Dublin, much like what happened at the Sydney Olympic Games.

For more information please visit <http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/>

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PARISH INFORMATION

Sacraments

Confessions: Sat 4.45-5.15pm
Baptisms: By Appointment
Weddings: By Appointment

Office Hours: 9.30am - 3.00pm

Monday to Friday

Office Phone: (02) 4739 8928

Office Fax: (02) 4739 8929

Address:

46 Levy Street, Glenbrook 2773
PO Box 123 Glenbrook NSW 2773

Parish Priest: Fr Jolly Chacko MS

E-mail: jollyms20022000@yahoo.co.in

Phone: 0417 541 637

Secretary: Juliana Khnouf

E-mail: secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Admin: Peter McMahon

E-mail: admin@stfinbars.org.au

Phone: 0404 010 997

Web: www.stfinbars.org.au

Parish School: Principal Mrs Donna McFadzean

Phone: 4724 3600

ROSTER FOR 13 & 14 JANUARY 2017

Liturgical Ministries	5.30 pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	John Verhoeven	Rodney Moffitt	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Peter McMahon	Carl Moll	Andrew Duval
Junior Server	Lara Selby		Volunteer Please
Warden	Ken Schneiders & Chris O'Meara	Rodney Moffitt	Steve Newton
Welcomer	Paul Etherington		Peter & Trish Hurley
1 st Reading	Beth Culliver	Ann Keating	Carmel Higgins
2 nd Reading	Maureen Tulk	Elizabeth Konza	Erin Kelly
Intercession	Volunteer Please	John Isaksen	Irene Aligno
IT Operator	Yvonne Etherington	Elizabeth Konza	Jim McLoughlin
Music	No music		No Music
Presentation of the Gifts	Chris & Sandra O'Meara	Rivas Family	Tom Torrance
Minister of Communion	Sybil Mason Thea Robertson Brian Robertson Margaret Richards	Kath Tierney Jim Tierney Gwen Cullinan Ann Keating	John Mullane Juliana Khnouf Gerard Egan Garry Pursehouse
Children's Liturgy	School Holidays		
Cashier	Bernadette Shalala & Erika McNay		
Hospitality	Ann King, Grace Buckley, Daren & Liz Dukes		
Church Care	Catherine Marceau, Jane Lennon, Sally Doyle, Christyna Lloyd, Nicole Young & Beth Killeen		
Piety Stall at 9.30am Mass	Piety Stall Closed in January		



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