



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
Fifty Years as a Parish in the Lower Blue Mountains

27 & 28 February 2016

3rd Sunday of Lent, Year C

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15; Psalm 102; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9



DIOCESAN WORKS FUND (DWF): The Diocesan Works Fund is taken up in all parishes three times each year, and our next date is **this weekend 27/28 February**.

All donations received are used to fund the many activities that the Diocese is responsible for. These currently include

CatholicCare Social Services, the Holy Spirit Seminary where priests are trained, Prison and University Chaplains and the Institute for Mission to mention just a few. Our parish quota is \$7,680. Gifts over \$2 are tax deductible. Please be as generous as possible, as if we don't meet our quota we will need to take money from our scarce parish funds.

Third Sunday of Lent:

One major theme emerges from today's readings: incomprehensibility of God. We see it in the mysterious divine name, which distinguishes the God of Israel from all others and yet leaves us in the dark as to its meaning. We see it as God communicates with us through inanimate objects and the people in our lives. Finally, we see that God both pardons iniquities and decides to root out unfruitful branches, and we are confused by such inconsistency.

In the midst of this ambiguity we have one sure source of stability – Christ. It is Christ who reveals the nature and meaning of the divine name; it is Christ who intercedes for us before God. Christ, the one who set his face toward Jerusalem, there to suffer and die, is the great

messenger through whom God is revealed. He is the one who reveals majesty through the simplicity of a bush; he is the one who judges with the patience of a gardener. However, the limits of the experience and mercy of God in our lives are defined by our own openness. Despite the blessings that we receive in the wildernesses of our lives, it could happen that God is not pleased with us. We must not take God's goodness for granted.

These readings close on a note of caution. Take care! We might be able to rest secure in the knowledge of the love and mercy of God, but these readings tell us that we should not dare to rest passively or complacently.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS

Sunday February 28	7.30am, 9.30am Masses. 11.00am Baptisms 1.30pm Bridge. P/C	Thursday 3 March	9.00am Mass 9:30am Bridge M/R 1.30pm Bridge. P/C 3.30pm Children's Choir Practice. Church 7.30pm Blue Labyrinth Dancers. P/C
Monday February 29	10.30am Latin Mass. 5.00pm SVDP meeting . M/R	Friday 4 March	9.00am Mass (Ember Day) followed by Adoration and Benediction. 10.30 First Friday Visits. 1.00pm Bowlers P/C
Tuesday 1 March	9.00 Mass. 11.30am Cantabile practice. Church 7.30pm Adult Education. P/C	Saturday 5 March	9.00am Mass 3.30pm RCIA. W/S 4.45pm - 5.15pm Confessions. 5:30pm Vigil Mass
Wednesday 2 March	8.00am Mass followed by the Ro- sary 9.30am Playgroup. P/C 7.00pm Bridge. P/C	Sunday 6 March	7.30am and 9.30am Masses. 5.00pm The Edge Group. P/C 6.00pm Youth Mass. 7.30pm Lounge Group. P/C

WELCOME to all visitors to our church today. We extend 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 and Information pack.

St. Finbar's Parish News

Thank you to the families who donated the washing machine and the vacuum cleaner for our needy parishioner.



The Lounge met last Sunday a series of games and discussions were held about the need for forgiveness in all relationships. God and Jesus being the ultimate role models for relationships and merciful forgiveness.

Next Youth Mass will be the **Sunday 6th of March** - both youth groups will be held on that day.

THE RCIA catechumens, candidates, sponsors and team would appreciate your prayers and support. We are now in the period of Catechumenate. Barry, Daniel, Michelle and Sarah are invited into the mystery of God's love, to a gospel way of life. The Catechumenate uses language of nurture such as growth, maturity, response and promise. It is essentially a time of apprenticeship.

This is a period to experience being called and chosen, a time to respond through conversion. During the Vigil Mass in the Sundays of Lent we have Scrutinies, special prayers, rites and blessings with deep meaning relating back to the Early Church. Thank you to all at St Finbars for keeping us in your prayers.

World Day of Prayer – CUBA Jesus said to them “Receive children. Receive me.” Time: 7pm
Date: Friday, 4th March 2016. **Location:** St. Finbar's Church. An initiative of the Glenbrook-Blaxland Inter church Group.

CONCERT ON SATURDAY MARCH 12 2016: There will be a concert on Saturday March 12 at 7.30pm in our Parish Hall as a fundraiser for the Bush School, Cambodia. It would be very much appreciated if the parish's hospitality groups, as well as other interested parishioners, could donate some sandwiches, slices or other finger food for the occasion. The committee hopes that, as well, this function will also provide an enjoyable social evening for St Finbars parishioners.
Kind Regards, Doug Frewer

Reminder to all who still have WYD tickets, please return to the Office or Fr Jolly as soon as possible!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED: Mel Nethrey (Elizabeth Rowe's mother), Jim Cook, Warwick Grange (Gerard Egan's cousin), Dela Baron (Erika McNay's mother), Patrick Walsh and Lachlan Throughgood.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS: Fr Mac, Joan Lohrey, Marcia Pereira, Matthew Jacka, Jim Daley, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Fr Max Barrett CSSR (Jim's brother), Colin Haywood, Roslyn Agar, Colleen Nolan, John Camilleri, Margaret Burley, Ray Smith (husband of Jan), Steven McCormack, Maddison Farrugia, Ken & Shirley Glover, Cliff McHardy, Ben Gibson and Emma Gleeson.

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Michael Yabsley, William Cummins, Brett Hopson, Eunice Shaw, Margaret Feld, Gloria Miles, James Hurley, Mary Mulvey and Lewis Konza.

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LEURA MEMORIAL GARDENS FUNERALS

St. Finbar's Parish News



Third
Sunday
of Lent

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
PROJECT
COMPASSION



Generational poverty has led to many challenges in Dominic's community in Papua New Guinea, including gender inequality, alcohol abuse

and violence. Since receiving training in the Caritas Australia supported Community Conversations program, Dominic has learnt communication and problem solving skills to lead his community towards a more peaceful, prosperous future.

EASTER VIGIL CHOIR: there will be 3 practicesWednesday 2nd March, also the 9th and 16th March at 7.30pm—9.00pm in the Church. I will be co-ordinating this choir as neither Geoff or Peter are able to do it this year. We thank both of them for the many years of service to the music ministry.

I look forward to singing with "familiar faces" and newcomers. As long as you can sing in tune , you'll be very welcome. Enquires, Mary 47544955

PARISH POTTED HISTORY 29

Did you know? Part B

St Finbar's Netball Club – commenced 1968

Our uniforms have changed over the years. We began with an orange A line dress with white inverted pleat in the side, to a box pleat tunic. Then came a wrap-around skirt. Then "wow" - a pleated skirt together with a white shirt. We next outfitted our players with a white polo neck shirt with orange birds on the shoulder to replace the previous white shirt. Our club was the first club to introduce the lycra top and skirt - a uniform which suits all shapes and sizes.

St Finbars has honoured a number of very hard workers with a Life Membership to recognize their contributions and continued support of the Club. Carmel Higgins, Bev Palmer, Peter Nardi, Joan Capsanis, Robyn Flynn and Elizabeth Konza have all attained such recognition. Additionally, Carmel Higgins and Elizabeth Konza have also been awarded Life Memberships of the Blue Mountains Netball Association. Our Club was also represented at the most successful World Netball Tournament in 1991 as volunteers.

We have supported the Association in their fight for permanent grounds. In the beginning, we played each Saturday using about four or five different grounds. This made it extremely difficult if not almost impossible to organize, particularly as some of our coaches were coaching two teams of the same age group who were playing at the same time at either end of the Mountains.

In 1983, when our member Carmel Higgins was President of the Association, a number of the members of our club joined the members of many other Clubs to protest outside the Council Chambers in Katoomba. Placards with words such as "NETBALL IS HERE TO STAY" and "NETBALL NEEDS GROUNDS", were carried aloft by the protestors. A photo taken outside of the Council Chambers, which was featured on the front page of the Gazette, clearly showed the level of determination!

St Finbars Netball Club has won many Premierships. This is mainly due to the dedication of many people, who don't just coach a team, but give of their time to attend courses to improve their skills and knowledge. The same applies to many of our umpires, who attend coaching clinics. This has resulted in a large number of our umpires achieving National status, as well as many of our junior umpires receiving their Association badge. We are a very family orientated club, with a great reputation for being a friendly, social club, everyone supporting each other.

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PARISH INFORMATION

Sacraments

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

Office Hours: 8.30am – 4.00pm
 Wednesday, Thursday & 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 541637

Secretary:

Margaret Rivas
 E-mail: secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Admin:

Peter McMahon
 E-mail: admin@stfinbars.org.au
 Phone: 0404 010997

Web:

www.stfinbars.org.au

Parish School: Principal Mrs Donna McFadzean

Phone: 4739 1796

Next week's Roster at St Finbar's 5 and 6 March 2016

Liturgical Ministries	5.30 pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Peter McMahon	Rodney Moffitt	Paulina Grodzicki
Senior Server	Victoria De Mattia	George Bryan	Gary Pursehouse
Junior Server	Patrick, Alex & Johnny McLoughlin		Hannah Stanford Brendan Khnouf Riley McKenzie
Warden	Vince Dobson Allan Jones	Rodney Moffitt	George Grodzicki
Welcomer	Carmel Dobson		Tom Torrance
1 st Reading	Brian Edwards	David Shatford	Pearse Cremin
2 nd Reading	Eileen Jones	Margaret Dickson	Ruth Gott
Intercession	Reg Moore	Rodney Moffitt	Martin Rogers
I.T Operator	Jayne Mason	Margot Power	Jim McLoughlin
Musician	Claire & Finbarr Choir		Jenny & Anne's Group
Presentation of the Gifts	Ryan & Ahyiesha D'Souza	Maria Heinzl Stanis Drobiszewski	Dorothea Walsh
Minister of Communion	Beth Gibbeson John Verhoeven Noreen Taylor Sandra O'Meara Chris O'Meara Reg Moore	Margaret Dickson Ian Dickson Colleen Fuller Volunteer please	Stephen Brown Wendy Brown Sue McGrath Bernie Fisher Volunteer please Volunteer please Volunteer please
Children's Liturgy	Juliet		
Cashier	Ann Keating, Pat Bell and Robyn Flynn		
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek, Tom Torrance & Vicky Ang		
Church Care	Marie Hurley, Carolyn Duval, Maria Cummins, Margaret & Michael Richards		



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