

The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
3 and 4 September 2016
23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C

Wisdom 9:13-18; Ps 89; Philemon 9-10,12-17; Luke 14:25-33

The wisdom tradition from which the first reading is taken is rooted in the fact that life is a series of choices. The epistle and the gospel reading provide us with examples of the way Christians should choose. Finally, the psalm's description of the fleeting nature of life sets the context and tone of our decision-making.

Discipleship demands that, in the face of all the choices available to us, we keep our priorities straight. In the gospel, Jesus insists that we must be single minded. We must cling to the one thing necessary, and that one thing is authentic discipleship. In choosing Jesus, we choose other things as well. We choose new relationships with the very people to whom we have already been committed. Those who were slaves, or lower class, or employees, or providers of service are now regarded as sisters and brothers in Christ. In choosing Jesus, we also choose the cross. We choose to live in a way that calls us to travel the high road: to forgive offences committed against us; to live simply so that others can simply live; to take responsibility for the moral character of society.

The fleeting nature of life as characterised in the psalm forces us to look at the meaning of life. When the day dawns for us to return to dust, what will we have gained from life? The realisation of our finiteness and the transitory nature of life should help us to set our priorities right and should give us the courage to remain faithful to them.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS

PARISH RETREAT Our parish retreat on the weekend of 15th and 16th October is designed to help us towards increasing our faith, resulting in the joy of knowing and loving Jesus Christ. As a preparation for the retreat, the **5:30pm Mass on Saturday 10th September** will be a Mass of preparation for our retreat, and will include a talk by Fr David Callaghan. All are invited to attend this Mass and to set aside the October weekend to make the Retreat.

Sunday 4 September	7.30am and 9.30am Masses. 10.45am Preparation for Confirmation Session 4. P/C 6pm Youth Mass 7:30pm The Edge group	Thursday 8 September <i>The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.00am Mass 1.30pm Bridge. P/C 3.30pm Children's Choir. 7.30pm Blue Labyrinth Dancers P/C
Monday 5 September	10.30am Latin Mass.	Friday 9 September	9.00am Mass, Adoration and Benediction. 1.00pm Bowlers P/C
Tuesday 6 September	9.00am Mass. 7.30pm Baptism Preparation. M/R 7.30pm Pastoral Council meeting.	Saturday 10 September	9.00am Mass. 4.45pm - 5.15pm Confessions. 5:30pm Vigil Mass.
Wednesday 7 September	8am Mass, then the Rosary. 9.30am Playgroup. P/C 7.00pm Confirmation. 7.00pm Bridge. P/C	Sunday 11 September	7.30am and 9.30am Masses. 2.30pm Sydney Welsh Choir.

M/R Meeting Room P/C Parish Centre (Hall)

WELCOME 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 Pack.

St. Finbar's Parish News

THE WAY OF MERCY

Dear friends and parishioners, the Way of Mercy is centred upon the journey of a large Cross of Mercy, accompanied by a relic of St Mary of the Cross and a letter penned by Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. It is an initiative of the Diocese of Parramatta. The cross and relics are hosted in turn by different parishes, communities and schools.

Our parish is hosting the Mercy Cross and relics of the saints on the weekend of 24th and 25th September. The Blue Mountains parishes are joining us on that weekend including Emu Plains, Glenmore Park and Warragamba-Luddenham. Our school children will highlight the Corporal Works of Mercy by their dances, dramas and other performances. Our parish youth will lead us in worship through their singing and prayers.

Our representatives and travelling mercy team will help us to reflect further. Our hospitality team will certainly look after our hunger and thirst needs. **The Cross arrives at 3.30pm.**

Let us come together as a community to experience the mercy of God in our lives and to show our spirit of mercy to others. Details of the times of the activities will be provided in The Barra over the coming weeks. Fr Jolly.

MUSIC AND THE WAY OF MERCY: The Youth and Children's Choir will lead the music at the 5.30pm Vigil Mass. This will be coordinated by Claire. For the 9.30am Mass on the 25th Jenny Long has kindly agreed to play the organ for a choir we need to get together and prepare.

There will be **2 day practices on Thursday 15th and 22nd at 1.30pm** in the Church or **2 night practices on the 14th and 21st at 7.30pm.** You need to attend just 2 practices at a time convenient for you. Thank you in anticipation for a good rollup!!! You can email me at mary.josephine.lopez@gmail.com

PLAYGROUP/PARENTS AND CARERS MORNING TEA

9:15-11:30 Wednesdays St Finbar's Parish Centre. All welcome for a play and cup of tea/coffee. Meet local families in a relaxed and warm environment. Come for just an hour or stay longer and bring a piece of fruit for children to share. Morning tea provided for adults. Gold coin donation. Contact Gabrielle Lynch for any enquiries 0481150022

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED: Margaret Lewis, Betty Grange, Tony Ryder (Sally Phoebe's father), Pining Brown, Patricia Fullerton, Hugh Keavy, John Joe Grieve, Joan Herbert, and Mary Robb.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS: Frank Christensen, Robert Toirkens, Stan Currey, Shirley Konza, Fr Mac, John Camilleri, Carmel Quilty Malone, Pam Clyne, Emma Gleeson, Gloria Conliffe, Joanne Macrae, John Roebuck, Peng Lee, Joan Lohrey, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Colleen Nolan, Jan Smith, Steven McCormack, Maddison Farrugia, Ken & Shirley Glover, Cliff McHardy, and Ben Gibson.

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Amy Merci, Gweneth Scott, June Jones, Harold Brown, Dorothy Parslow, Hugh Smith, Norah Trathen, Dorothy Luland, and Dinny van de Weyer.

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LEURA MEMORIAL GARDENS FUNERALS

St. Finbar's Parish News

THE 5C FUNDRAISER IS COMING TO ST FINBAR'S!



We have had a quote of \$11,000 to install a 10KW Solar System on the roof of the Hall. This system will generate 43 - 48kwh of power during the summer months, which will nearly cover the amount of power required, and 25kW of power in the winter. This system will power our Hall, Office and Church.

We are looking to raise \$5,000 through sponsorships from our Parishioners. If you can help with whatever amount please contact the Parish Office. To raise the remaining \$6,000 we are launching the world's easiest fundraiser. All you need to do is simply start collecting your 5c pieces and drop them at the Warden's Table at any Mass commencing next weekend onwards - that's it.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR RETIRED AND SICK PRIESTS. This appeal is being held this weekend. The appeal hopes to raise \$200,000 to help the Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese meet the needs of our sick and retired priests.
A third collection will be taken up at each Mass. Please use the special envelopes on the seats.
All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. If you wish to claim a tax deduction, please tick the box and write your details clearly on the envelope.

SEPTEMBER - PRAYER & MEDITATION AFTERNOON FOR PARENTS


The next Parents' prayer & meditation afternoon will be held at St Finbar's on Saturday 10th September from 3-4pm. All children are welcome and will be minded in the adjacent parish hall.
Please make a note of our remaining 2016 dates (occurring monthly, every 2nd Saturday from 3-4pm): **15 October 12 November and 10 December**
Please contact Annemaree Baird (0412 942 299) if you would like to attend.
Any new young parents, couples and parishioners are most welcome.
If you are able to join the roster to babysit our children during this time, it would be greatly appreciated - just let Fr Jolly know.

COMING EVENTS Please note the following dates for coming events:

*IMPORTANT Tues 6th Sept: Next Parish Advisory Council meeting

- * Wed 7th Sept at 7:30pm: Confirmation
- * Thurs. 8th Sept: Fr Jolly away until 17th Sept.
- * Sat 10th Sept at 5:30pm: Retreat Preparation Mass
- * Sun 11th Sept: Welsh Choir concert in our church
- * Thurs 15th Sept: Ecumenical Dinner
- * Weekend 24th and 25th Sept: Celebrating the Way of the Cross being in our Parish
- * Fri 7th Oct: Opening Night for Art Exhibition
- * Weekend 15th and 16th Oct: Parish Retreat
- * Tues 25th October :Next Parish Finance meeting


CHORUS & FANFARE A wonderful afternoon concert presented by the Sydney Welsh Choir and the Blue Mountains Concert Band will take place in our church on Sunday 11th September at 2:30pm. Tickets are \$20 adult and \$15 concession, and are available at the door. For all enquiries ring 4739 0384



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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: 10 and 11 September 2016

Liturgical Ministries	5.30 pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	John Verhoeven	Rodney Moffitt	Deb Lawrence
Senior Server	Peter McMahon	Carl Moll	Andrew Duval
Junior Server	Lara Selby Kate Hanigan		Christopher, Margaret & Nicolas Gott
Warden	Ken Schneiders Chris O'Meara	Rodney Moffitt	Steve Newton
Welcomer	Margaret Moore		Suzanne McGrath
1st Reading	Allan Jones	Mary Creenaune	Annissa Nilsson
2 nd Reading	Dawn Willis	Andrew Teece	Joe Lopez
Intercession	Ken Schneiders	Annie Teece	Richard Cutler
IT operator	Amie Farrell	Ellen Teece	Joseph Marceau
Presentation of the Gifts	Allan & Eileen Jones	David & Dianne Shatford	Gott Family
Minister of Communion	Sybil Mason Thea Robertson Brian Robertson Richard Mason Margaret Richards Anthony Toutounji Andrew Wilson	Kath & Jim Tierney Gwen Cullinan Ann Keating	John Mullane Juliana Khnouf Mari McDonald Gerard Egan Gary Purchasehouse Volunteer please Volunteer please
Children's Liturgy	Christyna		
Cashier	Ann Keating, Pat Bell & Robyn Flynn		
Hospitality	Anne King, Darren & Liz Dukes and Grace Buckley		
Church Care	Kathy King, Kath & Jim Tierney, Eileen Jones & Gwen Cullinan		
Garden Club	<u>17th September</u> Paul Gatt, & Annissa Nilsson		
Music	Vigil Mass: M. Taylor & Matthew P		9.30am: Naomi's group



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