

# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
**26 and 27 November 2016**  
**First Sunday of Advent, Year A**

*Isaiah 2:1-5; Ps 121; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44*



The first Sunday of Advent sees the commencement of the new liturgical year. This new liturgical cycle is referred to as Year A and features the Gospel of Matthew. Advent comes from the Latin word *Adventus* which literally means 'coming'; it is also reflected in the Greek word *Parousia*, which is used to describe the second coming of Jesus.

So Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation of the coming of Christ into the world that is celebrated in the Nativity at Christmas. The gospel passage chosen for today's reading richly expresses that anticipation and need for preparation.

The two great feasts of Christianity – the Nativity and Easter – are each preceded by a period of preparation: Advent and Lent.

The emphasis of these seasons is on the mental and spiritual preparation to fully enter into one of the great mysteries of faith.

In the Nativity, we celebrate God become human; God present in the world in a physical way. Advent is a time to remember the many and varied ways that God continues to be present in the world.

*Reflection by Greg Sunter*

**This weekend** we have our **Parish Census**. You will find the cards on the seat. Even if you think we already have your contact details, we still ask every family to fill in a card with your name and relevant information and place it on either collection plate or give it to the Wardens after Mass. We need to update our Parish system and it should only take a few minutes of your time. Thank you.

## **DIOCESAN WORKS FUND (DWF) APPEAL STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

Thank you to all parishioners who gave generously to this appeal over the last two weekends. However our quota for this appeal is just short **\$2000**. If you could manage to donate a little extra, it would save us from making up the difference from our parish account. Envelopes for the appeal are on the Wardens' table. Please use them to donate to the appeal. We rely on your generosity to help us reach our target.

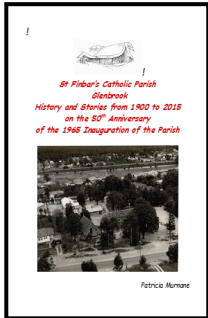
<b>Sunday 27</b> <b>November</b> <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	<b>7.30 and 9.30am Mass</b> <b>10.30am Musicians meeting. M/R</b> <b>11.00am Baptisms.</b>	<b>Thursday 1 December</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>1.30pm Bridge. P/C .</b> <b>7.30pm Blue Labyrinth Dancers. P/C</b>
<b>Monday 28</b> <b>November</b>	<b>9.00 Mass.</b>	<b>Friday 2 December</b>	<b>9.00am Mass followed by Benediction</b> <b>10.30am First Friday visits.</b> <b>1.30pm Bowlers. P/C</b>
<b>Tuesday 29</b> <b>November</b>	<b>9.00 Mass.</b>	<b>Saturday 3 December</b> <i>St Francis Xavier</i>	<b>9.00am Mass.</b> <b>4.45pm - 5.15pm Confessions.</b> <b>5:30pm Vigil Mass</b> <b>6.30pm Parish Christmas Party.</b>
<b>Wednesday 30</b> <b>November</b> <i>St Andrew Apostle</i>	<b>8.00am Mass followed by Rosary.</b> <b>10.00am Playgroup. P/C</b> <b>7.00pm Bridge. P/C</b>	<b>Sunday 4 December</b> <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	<b>7.30 and 9.30am Mass</b> <b>5.00pm The Edge Youth Group. P/C</b> <b>6.00pm Youth/ Family Mass.</b> <b>7.30pm Senior Youth Group. P/C</b>

**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

## HOSPITALITY:

At St Finbars we are known for our hospitality. We have morning tea after the 9:30 Sunday Mass with the roster organized by Lena Wiecek, sausage sizzle and soups at the Family and youth Mass organized by the youth team and after the anointing Mass there is morning tea ably provided by Kathy King and Doris Field. For funerals we have a team organized and planned by Mairé Griffin. Many thanks to these wonderful workers; we really appreciate your generosity and the work of your team. If you would like to join the funeral hospitality team to help with serving and preparing sandwiches, slices and scones please contact Margaret Richards on 47396470 for more details.



**ST FINBAR'S HISTORY AND STORIES FROM 1900 TO 2015** is again on sale at the Wardens' table. **\$10** full colour 60pages. Good value! The book is a compilation of all the Potted Histories that were published in the Parish Bulletin, as well as many more. Photos and images are included.

**An extra item for that Christmas stocking!**

## NOTICES FROM PARRAMATTA:

### CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT THE SHRINE:

17 December The Schoenstatt Sisters would like to invite you to join them for an evening of carol singing at the shrine. Please bring a blanket or chairs and some snacks if you wish. Children are encouraged to come dressed as angels and shepherds. You are welcome to enjoy a picnic dinner in the grounds before the carols commence. From 7.30pm-8.30pm at Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. This is a free event – everybody is welcome.

### MASS FOR THE HOLY INNOCENTS: 28 DECEMBER

The principal celebrant for the 23rd annual pro-life Mass will be Sydney's Bishop Richard Umbers. Mass at 11am at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, 8 Diana Ave, Kellyville, followed by a rosary procession to the Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents for devotions and Benediction. Everyone is welcome to pray for the protection of all human life (especially the unborn) from conception to natural death. A luncheon will be provided – please bring a plate to share. Inquiries (02) 9629 2595.

### GIRLS' CAMP AT MOUNT SCHOENSTATT:

11-14 January 2017: Girls aged 10-12 are invited to a three-day camp at Mt Schoenstatt. We will explore how our faith connects with our everyday lives. Program also includes prayer, craft and fun activities. From 4pm on Wednesday 11 January to 4pm on Saturday 14 January. Venue: Home of Light, Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Cost: \$110 (includes food and accomm). **RSVP: Monday 12 December** (registration form and deposit required). Inquiries: Sr M Luka 0439 537 843.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:** Ida Watson-Will ( friend of the Rivas family), Daphne Grange (Joe's sister) , Annette Hennessy, John Mulholland, Ken Glover, Betty Grange, Christopher Hunt (Helen & Terry (dec) son), Frank Christensen (Margaret's husband) and Janet Collins.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:** Terry Stevens, Jeff Dean, Grant Madden, Madge Boylan, Paul Clements (friend of Gwen Parker), Tony & Jacqui Visser, Noah Cariolato (student of St Columba's), Denise Keys, Fr Mac, Robert Toirkens, Stan Currey, Shirley Konza, John Camilleri, Carmel Quilty Malone, Pam Clyne, Emma Gleeson, Joanne Macrae, John Roebuck, Joan Lohrey, Jan Smith, Colleen Nolan, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Maddison Farrugia, Shirley Glover, Cliff McHardy and Ben Gibson.

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Glenna Vandensteen, Shirley Noyes, David Miles, Harold Mitchell, Frank Kroehnert, Lawrence Dunne, Thomas O'Malley, Julia Rudnicki and Ronald Lowe.

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**LEURA MEMORIAL GARDENS FUNERALS**

# St. Finbar's Parish News



## 2017 Calendars

The 2017 religious calendars featuring beautiful artwork are now available at the Wardens table at the modest price of \$6 Franciscan and \$9 Columban.

## PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY:

We are having our annual Christmas get together on Saturday 3rd December after the 5.30 Vigil Mass. We will have the party in the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate to share.



**THE MUSICIANS MEETING** is on **Sunday 27th November** at 10.30am after the 9.30am Mass. All groups are asked to attend to discuss the Christmas Liturgies. Please make every effort to come and join in the meeting.

## CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS IN MUSIC AND SONG AT ST. FINBARS

### Music and Readings for Christmas

St Finbar's traditional Christmas celebration anticipated by the entire community will be held this year on

**SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 7.30PM.**

Massed Choir, Readings, Harp, Handbells and Brass. Join the great organ in singing carols with the choir and congregation, and rejoice in the Hallelujah Chorus with brass and timpani. Retiring collection – suggested donation: Families \$30, individuals \$10. Bring the family, friends and neighbours. Proceeds towards the upkeep of the organ. Enquiries 4754 1780.

## FINAL PRAYER & MEDITATION

### AFTERNOON FOR PARENTS

### DATE SATURDAY 10 DECEMBER

The next Parents' prayer & meditation afternoon will be held at St Finbar's on Saturday 10 December.

All children are welcome and will be minded in the adjacent parish hall. We'd love to see you there. Please contact Annemaree Baird 0412942299 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.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Soon, seven Year Six members of this choir will move on to High School, leaving just six enthusiastic members remaining. We need more singers to at least replace the Year Sixers who have been in this choir since Year Three. What's involved? Well we meet straight after school 3.15 every Thursday (school term) outside the Church for a play and some food. From 3.30 to 4.30pm, we prepare the music for the 9.30am Mass every fourth Sunday of the month.

**This Choir** leads the singing. It's a great opportunity for them to experience the joy that comes when singing together God's Praises. Come, see and hear this little group on Sunday 27th November, 9.30am Mass and perhaps your child might like to join us next year. Enquiries Mary Lopez 47 544955.

## ST FINBAR'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



Enrolments for 2017 are now being accepted.

As well as Kindergarten, there are also some vacancies in other grades. Please let family and friends know to contact the School office  
Tel. (02) 4739 1796



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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: 3 and 4 December 2016

Liturgical Ministries	5.30 pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Peter McMahon	Rodney Moffitt	Paulina Grodzicki
Senior Server	Victoria De Mattia	Andrew Teece	Gary Pursehouse
Junior Server	Patrick, Alex & Johnny McLoughlin		Hannah Stanford Brendan Khnouf
Warden	Vince Dobson Allan Jones Lorraine Brown	Rodney Moffitt	George Grodzicki
Welcomer	Carmel Dobson		Lukas & Kristina Rajnoch
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Gerard Egan	Mary Creenaune	Martin Rogers
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Julie-Ann McLoughlin	Andrew Teece	Joanne Stubbs
Intercession	Annie McLoughlin	Annie Teece	Kristina Rajnoch
I.T Operator	Amie Farrell	Elizabeth Konza	Henry Hanko
Musician	Finbarr Choir		Jenny & Anne's Group
Presentation of the Gifts	Ryan & Ahyiesha D'Souza	Maria Heinzl Stanis Drobiszewski	Gott Family
Minister of Communion	Beth Gibbeson John Verhoeven Noreen Taylor Sandra O'Meara Chris O'Meara Reg Moore Volunteer please	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	Lauren		
Cashier	Ann Keating, Pat Bell and Robyn Flynn		
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek, Tom Torrance & Vicky Ang		
Church Care	Robyn Flynn, Jan de Bie, Huia Kingi & Jessica Doherty		



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