



# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
**18th and 19th February 2017**  
**Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A**

Lev 19:1-2, 18-18; Ps 102; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Matthew 5:38-48

## REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS:

At times it seems we have rewritten the 'Golden Rule' to say: Do unto others before they can do unto you! In saying this we are not encouraging each other to do good, but to be defensive. Jesus tells us to go the extra mile, turn the other cheek, outdo ourselves in generosity and rise above the fray. He is not suggesting that we allow ourselves to be abused, but that we not perpetuate the antagonism out of which the mistreatment arose.

He is not advocating passivity, but he is saying that we should not retaliate. Jesus is describing what we today would call active non-resistance, the attitude taught by Gandhi and Martin Luther King.

We are familiar with the answer to the question: Who is my neighbour? We usually interpret it to mean those we do not particularly like. It is important to love them, to be kind to them, to help them when they are in need. But these are not the people whom Jesus is talking about in today's reading. He tells us that the neighbours whom we are to love are those people who do not like us. We are to love those who deliberately exclude us from their social circles, who talk about us behind our backs. We are to love those who make us feel that we are not good enough for them, those who resent us for our accomplishments. We are to love those who exploit us or do us harm. This is indeed a radical teaching.

*Dianne Bergant*

**We welcome Fr Jolly home this weekend after his retreat and his holiday to visit his family.**

## THE EDGE YOUTH GROUP

Note that The Edge youth group will NOT meet on this Sunday, 19th February.

**RON AUSSEL:** Only very few people reach a hundred years old in life. Only a rare few remain with good memory and the capacity to move around freely and even with the ability to drive and be involved with the community's lives.



Ron is one among the rare ones and the only known one in our parish community. Ron made it to 100 on the 14th February. To celebrate his life in the parish community and to thank God for the gift of Ron in our parish, Fr Jolly together with the Parish Council invites all parishioners to join the 9.30am Mass on the 26th February, followed by a grand morning tea in the Parish Hall.

<b>Sunday</b> <b>19 February</b> <b>7th Sunday of</b> <b>Ord. time.</b> <b>Year A</b>	<b>7.30am and 9.30am Masses</b> <b>1.30pm Bridge P/C</b> <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b>	<b>Thursday</b> <b>23 February</b> <b>St Polycarp</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>1.30pm Bridge. P/C</b> <b>7.30pm Blue Labyrinth Dancers. P/C</b>
<b>Monday</b> <b>20 February</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>9.00am Fun Singers</b>	<b>Friday</b> <b>24 February</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>1.00pm Bowlers. P/C</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>21 February</b>	<b>9.00am Mass.</b> <b>11.00am Caring for Carers M/R</b> <b>7.30pm Parish Finance Cttee meeting. M/R</b> <b>7.30pm Pastoral Care meeting</b>	<b>Saturday</b> <b>25 February</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>4.45pm- 5.15pm Reconciliation</b> <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>22 February</b> <b>The Chair of</b> <b>St Peter</b>	<b>8.00am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Playgroup. P/C</b> <b>11.30am Cantible. Church</b> <b>7.00pm Bridge. P/C and M/R</b>	<b>Sunday</b> <b>26 February</b> <b>8th Sunday of</b> <b>Ord. time.</b> <b>Year A</b>	<b>7.30am and 9.30am Masses</b> <b>11.00am Baptisms.</b> <b>11.00am Ron's Morning Tea. P/C</b>

**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

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** Our parish will be hosting a Men's Breakfast on Saturday 4th March in the Parish Hall from 7.30am to 9.00am. All men are invited to attend. For catering purposes anyone coming is asked to put their name on the list at the Wardens table.

**CARING FOR CARERS** will resume Tuesday 21st February, 10am - 12noon in the St Finbar's Parish Centre Glenbrook.

**WHO IS A CARER?** : those who care for loved ones, friends and the wider community.

Carers may care for a few hours a week or all day every day. Others who may be home alone or lonely and would enjoy a cuppa and chat are welcome.

This year we are venturing into 'sewing for the less fortunate' as well as patchwork, knitting, crochet etc. Some materials and a sewing machine will be made available. Morning Tea provided.

Come and enjoy - we look forward to seeing you.

For more information please contact Kath 47392651 or [ktierney@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ktierney@bigpond.net.au)

**OUR HOSPITALITY MINISTRY** requires 2 new volunteers to help with our group on Sunday mornings after the 9.30am Mass. You would be rostered on once a month to help set up and serve tea and coffee. Please contact Lina on 0414 323 265.

**PIETY STALL:** We need help with the Piety Stall at the Sunday 9.30am Masses. Please contact Noreen on 4739 8882 and she will be happy to assist you to settle in and help you wherever possible.

**DIOCESAN WORKS FUND:** The second Diocesan Works Fund appeal will be held next weekend, 25th/26th Feb. Please come prepared to be generous as our quota is \$7,703. There are some envelopes on the Wardens' table for those who might be away next weekend.

## **YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN A LENTEN GROUP IN 2017. SIGN TODAY— LAST CHANCE!**

The program we are using this year is the

'Hope Lenten Program 2017-Wollongong Diocese'

You can choose from these 3 groups;

\* Wednesday at 1pm Group leader Constance Colley

\* Thursday at 7.30pm Group leader Ann O'Connor

\* Saturday Morning at 9 am Group leader Martin Rogers.

Group leaders will contact you regarding venues. Please add your name and contact details to lists provided at the Wardens table in the Narthex **this weekend** (last chance).

Contact: Mila 4739 1470

**SACRISTAN AT 9:30AM MASS:** The parish currently has two vacancies for someone to fill the role of Sacristan at the 9:30am Mass on Sundays.

You will only be rostered once a month and complete training and mentoring will be provided. If you are interested, please contact the parish office and Peter will get in touch with you.

**BRIDGE LESSONS** The 8 week series of Bridge lessons commences on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 7 pm and runs for approximately 2 hours each week at St Finbar's Church Hall, 46 Levy St, Glenbrook. The cost will be \$50 per person and includes a book and supper. Frank: 4753 6048 or Carolyn: 4739 1805

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:** Ben Gibson, Charlie Buda, Dr. Patrick Cregan, Mary Ryan, Phil O'Donoghoe, Robert Pope (Jean di Nucci's father), Coral Darr, Peter May, Patrice O'Neill, Daphne Grange (Joe's sister), Annette Hennessy, John Mulholland Ken Glover and Betty Grange.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:** Patricia Young, Ellen Moffitt, Pat Barrett, John Brown, Jane Bloor, Ena Baker, Terry Stevens, Jeff Dean, Fr Mac, Madge Boylan, Grant Madden, Robert Toirkens, Stan Currey, Pam Clyne, Tony & Jacqui Visser, Jan Smith, Emma Gleeson, John Camilleri, Shirley Konza, Joan Lohrey, Joanne Macrae, Carmel Quilty Malone, John Roebuck, Colleen Nolan, Maddison Farrugia, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Shirley Glover and Cliff McHardy.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Ian Graham, Terry Groves, Robin Miles, Robert Dominish, Gregory McGee, William Pohlmann, Wendy Harley, Simon Egan, Virginia Windred, Mel Nethery, Sarah Watson, Irene Wiecek, Vincent Basile, John Venn and Zdenka Polak.

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



...saddest  
journey of  
the human  
heart"

**LEURA MEMORIAL GARDENS FUNERALS**

## LETTER FROM BISHOP VINCENT

Re: Royal Commission Case Study 50 –  
Catholic Church Authorities

As you would be aware, the Royal Commission commenced Case Study 50 on Monday 6 February, 2017. This case study will inquire into the factors that have contributed to the occurrence of child sexual abuse in Catholic Church institutions, the factors that may have contributed to the response of the Catholic Church in the past, the response of the Catholic Church to case study reports examined by the Royal Commission, and data relating to the claims of child sexual abuse in the Catholic Church.

This week we have learned of some alarming statistics about the rate of offending within the Catholic Church in the past. In his statement to the Royal Commission, Mr Francis Sullivan, CEO of the Truth Justice and Healing Council, accounted for this data by describing it as “a massive failure on the part the Catholic Church in Australia to protect children from abusers and predators, a misguided determination by leaders at the time to put the interests of the Church ahead of the most vulnerable and, a corruption of the Gospel the Church seeks to profess.”

This hearing marks the end of a shameful era where child-safety principles were clearly not given sufficient priority by Church leaders. As I become increasingly aware of the devastating effects of the deficiencies of the past, I pledge to you my commitment to work towards having the best systems in place to protect children from harm in the future when they engage in ministry of the Diocese of Parramatta.

Since the 1990s the Diocese of Parramatta has had systems in place to respond to professional standards matters. Building on this, in July 2014, the Diocese established an Office for Safeguarding and Professional Standards which was one of the first safeguarding offices to be established in an Australian Catholic diocese. This office gives priority to prevention through the delivery of mandatory professional learning for ministry leaders, the provision of practical advice and support to ensure that parish and diocesan activities and events are safe for our children, and the circulation of resources

While we are satisfied that we currently have robust systems in place to ensure the safety of children and other vulnerable groups we will continue to review and develop our policies systems and practices. Over the next two and half weeks Diocesan ministry and agency leaders are attending the Royal Commission hearing for the purpose of learning from the failings of the past so that our Church of the future will be free of the deficiencies that are currently being identified through the Royal Commission process. We will engage in processes to ensure that these challenging truths will inform our future practices in the Diocese of Parramatta.

This week we have learned about the need to review aspects of culture existing within the Church, the requirement for more accountable governance structures for the Diocese and the need for ongoing formation for clergy, religious and lay personnel who are responsible for leading pastoral ministry and Diocesan agencies. Be assured of my personal commitment to lead the changes necessary in the Diocese of Parramatta so that our ministry is safe for all people, especially our children.

Yours sincerely in Christ

**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen  
OFM Conv STL DD, Bishop of Parramatta.**

## LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES


There are opportunities available during Lent for all parishioners. Details are as follows:

### Lenten Retreat Day for Families: 5 March


Families of all ages welcome! 11am Holy Mass followed by BYO picnic. Afternoon program begins at 1.30pm with Input for Adults and Program for children; 3pm Prayer followed by afternoon tea. Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Free event but registration is essential at [trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com)

### Retreat for Mature Catholic Women - 10-12 March

Feeling on the Fringe of the Church? Retreat led by Andrea Dean. Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Early bird registration: \$420, includes course, individual sessions, accommodation, linen and all meals. Registration details: Andrea on 0487 388 873.



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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

## ROSTER FOR 25 AND 26 FEBRUARY

Liturgical Ministries	5.30 pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Marie Hurley	Rodney Moffitt	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Anaru Veitch	Carl Moll	Stephen Brown
Junior Server	Riley Farrell		Anna Santoro Mitchell Mathew
Warden	Reg Moore	Rodney Moffitt	Garry Clune
Welcomer	Nora Cordoba		Erika McNay
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Beth Culliver	Mary Creenaune	Briony Mowbray
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Maureen Tulk	Ann Keating	Jesse Mowbray
Intercession	Jacqui Visser	Kevin Flynn	Frank Fitzpatrick
IT Operator	Henry Hanco	Andrew Teece	Susan Dowling
Music	Carmen's Group		No music
Presentation of the Gifts	Jan de Bie Margaret Moore	Ann & Ray Keating	Tom Torrance
Minister of Communion	Julie Fehon Vince Dobson Lorraine Brown Georgina Barisic Allan Jones Peter McMahon Volunteer please	Terry Madden Doris Field Rodney Moffitt Volunteer please	Elizabeth Rowe Leesa Gillard Avril Llewellyn Mila Svehla Greg Rowe Todd Stanford Volunteer please
Children's Liturgy	Ruth		
Cashier	Erika McNay & Geoff Shalala		
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek & Tom Torrance		
Church Care	Jeannine Ashby, Deb Youngman, Leesa & Wayne Gillard		



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