



# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
**18th and 19th March 2017**  
**Third Sunday of Lent, Year A**

*Exodus 17:3-7; Ps 94; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42*

## REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS:

All people thirst for meaning, but of what does that meaning consist? The people in the desert thirsted for water, but they misunderstood their thirst. The woman of Samaria thirsted. Her conversation with Jesus showed that she thirsted for understanding and insight as well as water. For what do we thirst in this world of such great excess and unmeasured need? Life has not become simpler with all of our advances. We still thirst for more – for the newest, the fastest and the best. How much is enough, and when do we cross the line into 'too much'?

The gospel readings for the scrutiny Sundays very clearly lay out the choices that are placed before the catechumens and the rest of the believing community as well.



This Sunday it is between water that quenches thirst and water that does not. Jesus identifies himself as the source of water that guarantees eternal life.

He places before the Samaritan woman a choice that requires a step of profound faith. She knows the thirst-quenching quality of the water from Jacob's well,

but she is not acquainted with the water promised by this stranger who is also an enemy of her people. The choice is not an obvious one. A similar choice is placed before us. We know the demands of our culture and the circumstances of our lives.

Are we able to acknowledge the sins of which we are guilty, recognise the grace that is being offered to us, and make the right choice?

*Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS*

**DIOCESAN WORKS FUND (DWF):** Many thanks to all those parishioners who gave generously to this appeal. Thanks to you we have been able to reach our target of \$7703, and the Diocese will be able to support the many works of mercy that it is called on to assist.  
 Many blessings to you all.

<b>Sunday</b> <b>19 March</b> <b>3rd Sunday of</b> <b>Lent. Year A</b>	<b>7.30am and 9.30am Masses.</b> <b>6.00pm Youth Mass.</b> <b>1.30pm Bridge. P/C</b>	<b>Thursday</b> <b>23 March</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 March</b> <b>St Joseph</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>9.00am Fun Singers.</b>	<b>Friday</b> <b>24 March</b> <b>St Patrick</b>	<b>9.00am Mass &amp; Benediction</b> <b>1.00pm Bowlers. P/C</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>21 March</b>	<b>9.00am Mass.</b> <b>10.00am Caring for Carers</b>	<b>Saturday</b> <b>25 March</b> <b>The</b> <b>Annunciation of</b> <b>the Lord</b>	<b>9.00am Mass.</b> <b>4.45pm- 5.15pm Reconciliation</b> <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>22 March</b>	<b>8:00am Mass followed by Rosary.</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 March</b> <b>4th Sunday of</b> <b>Lent. Year A</b>	<b>7.30am and 9.30am Masses</b> <b>11.00am Baptisms.</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

## **PRAYERFUL SILENCE IN THE CHURCH**

There have been a number of parishioners who have commented on the fact that people do not show sufficient respect for the Blessed Sacrament when they enter the church.

It would be appreciated if parishioners did their talking outside the church, and that once they enter the church they maintain a prayerful silence in the presence of the Lord.

Likewise, after Mass, be mindful of those wanting to continue in prayer and wait until you are outside the church before engaging in conversations.

Thank you for your consideration in these matters.

## **PROJECT COMPASSION**- Like many other women



in Timor Leste, Martina was driven from her home by domestic violence. Facing poverty and an uncertain future, she sought refuge at Uma PAS shelter, a partner in Caritas Australia's Program in Timor-Leste.

The program connected her with livelihood training opportunities, offering economic empowerment, the chance to afford education for her children, and a safe life in a supportive community. Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help empower women in Timor-Leste to recover from domestic violence, develop sustainable livelihoods, and lead a life of dignity.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** The parish hosted a Men's breakfast on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March, consisting of a hearty Barbeque of bacon, sausages, eggs, rolls and sides. Attendance was 40 men and by all accounts was a very successful event. The Men's' breakfast will now become a regular event every 3 months.

Thanks to all those who attended, and special thanks to the kitchen and cook team, Lina Weicek, Vicki Ang, Clinton Jurd and John De Mattia.

We look forward to getting a few additional volunteers to assist with the next one.

Please pass on this information to any other men who would like to attend the next one.

If you have any questions please contact Father Jolly or myself. Carl Moll 0417 471 137

**FUN SINGERS** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March celebrating St Patrick's Day, please have all your St Patrick's gear and Irish Booklets. Marie

***PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND  
ENVELOPES ARE LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.  
PLEASE TAKE YOURS HOME TODAY.***

**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, Betty Grange, Daphne Grange (Joe's sister), Annette Hennessy, John Mulholland and Ken Glover.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:** Fr Maurice McNamara, Lyn Downes, Patricia Young, Ellen Moffitt, Pat Barrett, John Brown, Jane Bloor, Ena Baker, Terry Stevens, Jeff Dean, Madge Boylan, Grant Madden, Robert Toirkens, Stan Currey, Pam Clyne, Tony & Jacqui Visser, Jan Smith, Emma Gleeson, John Camilleri, 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:** Scott Robertson, Clare Druhan, Thelma Sparks, Thomas Boylan, Ruby Luland and Debra Saporito.

We value cost and care as much as you do



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*"To have,  
to love,  
and then to  
part is the..."*



*...saddest  
journey of  
the human  
heart"*

**LEURA MEMORIAL  
GARDENS FUNERALS**

# St. Finbar's News

## GOOD FRIDAY –

### QUIET MEDITATION AT THE END OF THE DAY.

The traditional candlelight presentation of music of J. S. Bach, complemented by sacred readings from the Passion of Christ, will once again be held at 7.30pm on Good Friday evening in the church. The Blue Mountains Chorale conducted by Robert Ampt, will sing poignant excerpts from St. John's Passion and all will be encouraged to participate in moving congregational hymns accompanied by organ. There will be a retiring collection.

Suggested donation \$15 and \$10 concession.

### VARIETY CONCERT FOR CAMBODIA:

A wonderful night of music, song and dance will be held in our Parish hall on Saturday 18 March, commencing at 7.30pm. Previous concerts have been greatly enjoyed by our enthusiastic audiences. Cost is \$20 pp, \$40 per family (concessions available). Supper is provided. To book phone Doug on 0403303943 or online <http://tinyurl.com/z9utmml>.

Tickets are available at the door - see flyer in the Narthex.

### OUR BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS:

Thank you to all who have continued giving their time looking after our beautiful gardens and lawns.

However we have lost a few parishioners, due to other commitments and moving to different suburbs. Would you be willing to help out about 4 times a year??? Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

**FOUND** A car key was found last Sunday after Mass. If it is yours, please ring the parish office to describe the key

**RETIREMENT NEWS:** I am stepping down from my position as Parish Secretary at St Finbar's on July 14. I have loved this job and the fabulous people I have worked with. After more than 12 years, I believe it is time to retire. As I have given Fr Jolly 4 months' notice I will be available to help the new secretary settle into the position. I'll be treating myself to a sabbatical, including extended trips with my husband overseas. Then, we'll see what's next. — and thanks to everyone who has joined me on this wonderful ride. Margaret Rivas

For more information regarding the vacant position please go to the Diocese of Parramatta website [parracatholic.org](http://parracatholic.org) positions vacant.

### ST FINBAR'S PRIMARY SCHOOL GLENBROOK

St Finbar's Primary School Glenbrook provides a Catholic Education for children in Years Kinder to Year 6. We are enrolling now for 2018.


All considering enrolment are invited to contact the school office on 4739 1796.

**CARING FOR CARERS** morning tea TUESDAY 21st MARCH 10am - 12noon. St Finbars Parish Centre. Our last gathering in February was productive, some sewing for the 'less fortunate' choosing from a wonderful array of cut-outs, as well as patchwork, knitting and craft for those interested in pursuing these activities, a great start for the year. This group is open to anyone who would benefit from a cuppa, chat and maybe one of the activities. For more information please contact Kath 47392651 or [ktierney@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ktierney@bigpond.net.au)


### SINGERS NEEDED FOR THE EASTER VIGIL!

Practices are on every Wednesday at 11:30 am in the Church, starting this week (22nd March).

For enquiries, please contact me at [mhy.phillips@gmail.com](mailto:mhy.phillips@gmail.com) or 4739 5782.



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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 25th & 26th MARCH

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Marie Hurley	Rodney Moffitt	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Anaru Veitch	Carl Moll	Stephen Brown
Junior Server	Billy Instance Riley & Amie Farrell		Anna Santoro Mitchell Mathew
Warden	Reg Moore	Rodney Moffitt	Garry Clune
Welcomer	Nora Cordoba		Erika McNay
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Beth Culliver	Margaret Dickson	Steve Newton
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Maureen Tulk	Rodney Moffitt	Patricia Murnane
Intercession	Jacqui Visser	Kevin Flynn	Joanne Stubbs
I.T Operator	Henry Hanko	Andrew Teece	Amie Farrell
Musician	Carmen's group		No music
Presentation of the Gifts	Lee Family	Rivas Family	Tom Torrance
Minister of Communion	Julie Fehon Vince Dobson Georgina Barisic Lorraine Brown Allan Jones Peter McMahon Volunteer please	Terry Madden Doris Field Rodney Moffitt Margaret Rivas	Leesa Gillard Mila Svehla Elizabeth Rowe Greg Rowe Avril Llewellyn Todd Stanford Volunteer please
Children's Liturgy	Melissa		
Cashier	Geoff Shalala & Erika McNay		
Hospitality	Tom Torrance, Marie Massif & Jenni Gerlach		
Church Care	Noreen Taylor, Erika McNay, Margaret & Ian Dickson, Heather & Steve Lee		
Garden Club	Lucas Rajnoch, Andrew Howard, Stuart Sheary & Daniel Lynch		



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