



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

6 and 7 May 2017

4th Sunday of Easter, Year A

Acts 2:14, 36-41; Ps 22; 1 Peter 2:20-25; John 10:1-10

World Day of Prayer for Vocations 2017:

The Holy See sets aside this Sunday as a special commemoration for Vocations.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

O Lord, my God, You renew the Church in every age by raising up priests outstanding in holiness, living witnesses of Your unchanging love. In your plan for our salvation You provide shepherds for your people. Fill the hearts of young men with a spirit of courage and love so that they may answer your call generously. Raise up worthy priests for Your Altars and ardent, but gentle servants of the Gospel. Give the Church more priests and keep them faithful in their love and service.
St John Vianney, pray for them.

Reflection on the Gospel

This is 'Good Shepherd Sunday' and a particular focus taken today is leadership. Which voices do we follow? Why do we follow these voices and not others? Authentic leadership is rooted in authority, and authentic authority is the ability to author or bring life to birth. Genuine authority cherishes, guards and encourages the best in life; it provides rest and refreshment; it guides our steps; it nourishes us; it leads us to God. Peter is an example of authentic authority: he proclaims the truth, even if others find it hard to hear; he denounces error, even when this places him in jeopardy; he calls for a change of heart, even when it makes great demands.

Authentic leadership is patterned after the leadership of Jesus. It is gentle and familiar, like the true shepherd; it has won the confidence of those who follow, as did the true shepherd; it is committed to the enhancement of the lives of others, as was Jesus. Authentic leadership is willing to forgo its own needs and to deny its own interests in favour of the needs and interests of others.

Heavy demands are placed on those who follow authentic leadership. Those who follow the Good Shepherd must follow him in the dark valleys as well as to the refreshing streams. They must be willing to relinquish some of their own plans and self-determination and entrust themselves to his leadership. They must never forget that they are following a shepherd who has paid the ultimate price on their behalf. *Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS*

Sunday 7 May 4th Sunday of Easter, Year A	7.30am and 9.30am Masses. 10.45am Reconciliation Preparation session 1. P/C 6pm Youth Mass.	Thursday 11 May	9am Mass. 1.30pm Bridge. P/C 7:30pm Blue Labyrinth Dancers P/C
Monday 8 May	9.00am Mass. 5.00pm SVDP. M/R	Friday 12 May	9.00am Mass & Benediction. 1.00pm Bowlers. P/C
Tuesday 9 May	9.00am Mass	Saturday 13 May	9.00am Mass. 3.00pm Parents Prayer Group.M/R 4.30pm Reconciliation Preparation session 2. P/C 4.45pm- 5.15pm Reconciliation 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Wednesday 10 May	NO 8.00AM MASS 9.15AM MOTHERS DAY SCHOOL MASS 9.00am Pastoral Care. M/R 9.30am Playgroup. P/C 11.30am Cantabile. Church. 7.00pm Bridge. P/C 7.30pm Gospel of John. M/R	Sunday 14 May	7.30am and 9.30am Masses. 10.45am Reconciliation Preparation session 2. P/C

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

DID YOU KNOW? What is the meaning of the altar? The altar is the symbol of Christ himself who is present both as sacrificial victim (the altar of the sacrifice) and as food from heaven which is given to us , (the table of the Lord) .



RECONCILIATION PREPARATION: We wholeheartedly welcome you and your child to begin your preparation classes at either 4.30 pm this Saturday May 6th OR this Sunday May 7th at 10.45 am (after 9.30 mass) in the Parish hall. It is important that you attend Mass each week of the preparation classes as the children will be involved each week. For this first week, they will be presented to the congregation so that the St Finbar's parishioners can be praying for them throughout their preparation classes. We look forward to seeing you this weekend.

Please contact us if you have any concerns at all. Regards, Julie-Ann McLoughlin, 0438 893 651

Pat and Jim Barrett would like to thank all the parishioners for all the prayers and support they have given during Pat's illness. God Bless you all.

CARING FOR CARERS MORNING TEA: TUESDAY 16th May 10am - 12noon at St Finbar's Parish Centre. Why don't you join us for another productive morning of sewing, knitting, crochet and patchwork. This group is open to anyone who would benefit from a cuppa, chat and maybe enjoy one of the activities. For more information please contact Kath 47392651 or ktierney@bigpond.net.au

BIBLE STUDY. The Gospel of John. Continues on Wednesday 10th May in Meeting Room St Finbars, 7.30-9pm. Bring a Bible. Gideon Goosen: telephone 47395273.

DIOCESAN WORKS FUND (DWF) APPEAL: Each year the Diocese of Parramatta asks all parishioners to assist those in need throughout the Diocese.


It does this through the three DWF appeals it conducts each financial year.

One is in November, one in February and the last one is in May.

This last appeal will be conducted at St Finbar's on the weekend of 20th/21st May, and is an opportunity for each parishioner to really practice being merciful to others by donating generously. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Each year the Diocese receives in excess of 20,000 requests for assistance from the needy, whether they be elderly, sick, disabilities, refugees, single mothers etc. Your contribution can touch the lives of these, our fellow men and women and help them in their time of need.


PLEASE SIGN THE PETITION: There are two bills before the New South Wales Parliament seeking to decriminalise abortion and to create so called "safe zones" around the clinics. These Bills increase the potential dangers to pregnant women, allow the abortion of viable babies up until birth without restriction, fail to include safeguards to ensure women give fully informed consent, override any professional or conscientious objections that medical practitioners may have to abortion and disregard the reality that many women have abortions as a result of pressure, coercion or lack of support from others. These bills may be debated and voted on in the next few weeks. A petition has been developed to allow people to register their opposition to these changes.



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St. Finbar's Parish News



ST FINBAR'S MENS BREAKFAST

Date - Saturday 27th May 2017

Time - 7:30 am – 9:00 am

Venue - Parish hall

The parish is holding an informal Men's breakfast for parishioners to meet and get to know one another.

This invitation is open to all male parishioners and any of their neighbours and friends.

For catering purposes we will need to confirm numbers by Sunday 21st May 2017.

Please add your name to the list on the warden's table.

We would welcome some volunteers to assist with set up and the cooking (from 6.30 am).

Any questions please contact the organisers, Carl Moll 0417 471 137 or John De Mattia 4739 6775

PARENTS PRAYER GROUP-

"LIVING THE FAITH"

Our next meeting will be on **Saturday 13 May 2017 3:00pm-4:30pm at the St Finbars Church Hall.**

Matt & Lucie from our group will be giving a talk on the 100 year anniversary of the visions at Fatima (the 13th of May 2017 is the actual anniversary date!) and there will also be the usual time for quiet prayer/ reflection and group discussion.

Children are very welcome--babysitting is provided in the adjacent church hall.

Please contact Annemaree on 0412 942 299 for more information.

CAN YOU HELP? SCRIPTURE TEACHERS URGENTLY NEEDED!

**Can you spare half an hour a week to teach our faith at one of our local primary schools?
Activity books and curriculum provided.**

We need a teacher for the next six months at Glenbrook Primary School for half an hour on Friday mornings.

**It is an enjoyable and rewarding experience!
Please call Beth on 4739.8577 or the Parish Office.**

Thank you to the Parishioners that have communicated to the Parish Council via the suggestion box and letters. Your comments and suggestions are much appreciated in guiding Parish concerns and initiatives. Some of the issues raised were:

- Winter heating of the Church and the surrounding meeting rooms
- Photos and names of Parish Council Members to be made available in the Narthex
- Children's crying room for parents with young children
- Good and closer relationships with St Finbar's and other surrounding schools are appreciated.

- The possibility of kneelers in the Church many suggestions received.
- Development of ministries in the Parish.

This is not an exhaustive list of the concerns and ideas that Parishioners have sent to the Parish Council, please be assured that all concerns and ideas are carefully considered and all effort is being made to promote consultation and to implement ideas where possible.

Your feedback is wonderful and appreciated by Fr. Jolly and the Parish Council .

Thanks everyone.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED: Esme Baxter, Allison Boath, Rhonda Smith, Ray Smith, Sophie Taylor, Madge Boylan, Patricia Young, Geoffrey McNay, Joseph Ryan, Monica Barron and Ben Gibson.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS: Peter O'Keefe (Beth Gibbeson's brother) , Mary Ann Manalili, Fr Maurice McNamara, Lyn Downes, Ellen Moffitt, Pat Barrett, Jane Bloor, Ena Baker, Terry Stevens, Jeff Dean, Grant Madden, Robert Toirkens, Stan Currey, Pam Clyne, Emma Gleeson, Tony & Jacqui Visser, Jan Smith, 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: Frederick Moffitt, Edna Mooney, Alexander Laing, Peter Smith, Michael Au, Bill Horneman, Laurence Brooks, Maureen Holmes, Emma Peters, Marjorie Aussel, Peter Buckley and Thomas Hannigan.

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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 541 637

Secretary: Margaret Rivas

E-mail: secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Admin: Peter McMahon

E-mail: admin@stfinbars.org.au

Phone: 0404 010 997

Web: www.stfinbars.org.au

Parish School: Principal Mrs Donna McFadzean

Phone: 4724 3600

ROSTER FOR 13 AND 14 MAY 2017

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 Schneider's Chris O'Meara	Rodney Moffitt	Steve Newton
Welcomer	Margaret Moore		Suzanne McGrath
1 st Reading	Allan Jones	Ann Keating	Carmel Higgins
2 nd Reading	Dawn Willis	Elizabeth Konza	Martin Rogers
Intercession	Ken Schneiders	John Isaksen	Irene Aligno
I.T Operator	Thais Turner	Ellen Teece	Joseph Marceau
Musician	Matthew & Michael		Naomi's Group
Presentation of the Gifts	Margaret Moore Jan de Bie	Rivas Family	Kathleen Schneiders & family
Minister of Communion	Sybil Mason Thea Robertson Brian Robertson Richard Mason Margaret Richards Anthony Toutounji Andrew Wilson	Jim Tierney Kath Tierney Gwen Cullinan Ann Keating	John Mullane Juliana Khnouf Mari McDonald Gerard Egan Garry Pursehouse Volunteer please Volunteer please
Cashier	Joe Grange & Ken Townsend		
Children's Liturgy	Ruth		
Hospitality	Anne King, Darren & Liz Dukes, Grace Buckley		
Church Care	Robyn Flynn, Jan de Bie, Kim Instance & Jessica Doherty		
Piety Stall at 9.30am Mass		Noreen Taylor	



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