



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

5 and 6 August 2017

Dan 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 96; 2 Pet 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

Reflection on the Gospel

Jesus takes his most trusted disciples up a high mountain to allow them to share in what he knows is about to occur. It is a very clear teaching moment in which Jesus hopes the disciples are going to finally grasp the truth about him. As the disciples stand by, Jesus is transformed before them – suddenly bathed in light and his clothes become dazzlingly white. The disciples also see Moses and Elijah standing and talking with Jesus. Moses was the great Law-giver of Jewish tradition and Elijah the great prophet. Together, they represent the Law and the Prophets – the combined wisdom that make up the tradition of Jewish teaching and Jewish scripture. It is the Law and the Prophets that Jesus' life and ministry brings to fulfilment. It is fitting that Moses and Elijah appear beside Jesus, as the three figures combined represent the fullness of Jewish tradition – the Law of



Moses; the challenge and promise of the Prophets; and the compassion of Jesus that completes the other two. Sadly, the disciples don't really get the point of what they see before them. Peter, caught up in the moment, wants to build tents on the spot to mark the moment and to continue to dwell in the moment. Jesus, however, leads them back down the mountain – back into the valley; back into the reality of life; back into the tragedy that he knows lies before them. No matter how powerful a religious experience may be, Jesus shows us that we always have to return to real life. It is not possible to remain on the 'mountaintop' as Peter would have liked to do; we have to take the experience back into the everyday of our lives.

Reflection by Greg Sunter

Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF)

Early-bird registration has now opened for the largest gathering of young Catholics since World Youth Day Sydney in 2008! Bishop Vincent & Catholic Youth Parramatta invite young people from Year 9 to 30 years of age to celebrate the young heart of the Church, with 15,000 others, at this year's triennial ACYF being hosted by the Archdiocese of Sydney (December 7-9) at Sydney Olympic Park. Here is how to register:

Student in our Catholic System— Speak to your REC

Student in State School System— Contact Catholic Youth Parramatta

Over 18 years of age—Register as an individual

Visit www.acyf.org.au now to secure the \$250 early-bird rate before August.

Sunday 6 August The Transfiguration of the Lord	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Confirmation Preparation 11.00am Baptism 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C	Thursday 10 August St Lawrence	9.00am Mass 1.00pm SRE Meeting M/R 1.30pm Bridge. P/C 7:30pm Blue Labyrinth Dancers P/C
Monday 7 August	9.00am Mass. 10.30am Funeral for Robyn Connors	Friday 11 August St Clare	9.00am Mass followed by Benediction. 1.00 pm Bowlers. P/C
Tuesday 8 August St Mary of the Cross	9.00am Mass. 1.00 pm St Mary of the Cross, Mary Mackillop. School prayer Assembly P/C	Saturday 12 August	9.00am Mass 3.00pm Parents prayer group P/C 4.30pm Confirmation Preparation 4.45pm- 5.15pm Reconciliation 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Wednesday 9 August	8.00am Mass followed by Rosary. 9.00am Pastoral Care Meeting M/R 9.30am Playgroup P/C 11.30am Cantabile. Church.	Sunday 13 August 19th Sunday in Ordinary time Year A	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Confirmation Preparation 11.00am Baptism

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

Jacqui Visser and family would like to thank Father Jolly and Father John McSweeney for co-celebrating the funeral of our beloved husband and father, Tony Visser. A special thanks to Peter McMahon, the hospitality members, people who brought food and helped get everything organised on the day. Thank you for the many flowers and cards and messages sent. Thank you to St Finbars community. I will always be grateful to all of you. God bless you all.

A FUNERAL MASS WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY THE 7TH OF AUGUST FOR ROBYN CONNORS AT 10.30AM. ALL ARE MOST WELCOME TO ATTEND

St. Finbar's Men's Breakfast

Date - Saturday 19th August 2017

Time - 7:30 am – 9:00 am

Venue - Parish hall

The parish is holding an informal breakfast as an opportunity 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 13th August 2017.

Please add your name the list on the Wardens' table.

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

2017 FAITH IN MARRIAGE SEMINAR: *Men, Women & the Mystery of Love*

Dr Edward Sri, American Theologian

St Patrick's Cathedral Hall Parramatta

Friday 8th September, 7.30pm sharp

Suggested donation \$10 per person

Register: 8838 3460 or lmf@parra.catholic.org.au

AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST CLIMATE PETITION: Australia's largest multi-electorate petition on climate justice, available on the warden table.

Understanding Family Law Seminar—Two Sessions: Tuesday 8th August: Focus on Divorce/Separation and Children's needs. Tuesday 22nd August: Focus on Property Settlements. Venue: 38 Prince St, Blacktown. Cost: \$7.00 per session. Registration: Contact Rita on 88222222 or email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED: Tony Visser, Peter Bryant, Janet Tulk, Robyn Connors, Father Anthony Reynolds, Jack McGlynn, Emma Gleeson, Baby Valentina Twyford, Father Maurice McNamara and Callum Grimes (Mari McDonald's nephew).

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS: Ken Moore, Mary Ann Manalili, Lyn Downes, Ellen Moffitt, Jane Bloor, Ena Baker, Terry Stevens, Jeff Dean, Grant Madden, Stan Currey, Pam Clyne, Jacqui Visser, Jan Smith, John Camilleri, Joan Lohrey, Joanne Macrae, Carmel Quilty Malone, John Roebuck, Colleen Nolan, Maddison Farrugia, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Shirley Glover, Cliff McHardy.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Maddie Mc Naughton, Eric Jeckeln, Reginald Hambilton, Michael Cahill, William Mathew, Mark Roebuck, Maree Whitton, Anne Griffin, Marion Nardi and Norma Bardwell-Cook.

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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 Parish News

DO YOU KNOW: ABOUT COMMUNION RITE

After the Eucharistic prayer we begin our preparation for the Holy Communion. It begins with the Lord's prayer, (The Our Father) and it is followed by a prayer to protect us from evil. We ask the Lord to deliver us from every evil. This prayer is followed by a prayer for peace. During the Eucharistic prayer we ask the Holy Spirit to come upon us to make us one. As a sign of that oneness and to prepare for receiving Jesus in Holy Communion we offer each other a sign of peace. Since all of us have sinned in one way or other and unworthy to receive Jesus in Holy Communion, again we ask Jesus for his mercy by praying the prayer, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world have mercy on us and then grant us peace. While this prayer is said by the congregation, the priest

breaks the bread. It symbolises the death of Jesus. Then he mingles the host in the chalice which symbolises Jesus descending to the dead to free souls. Then he joins the host again and it symbolises the Resurrection of Christ. Then the priest shows the host to the people and invites them to humbly confess their unworthiness with the prayer of the centurion who placed all his trust in the Lord (Mat 8:8). Then people come in procession to receive Holy Communion which reminds us that we are on a pilgrimage in this life, we are on a journey to our Father in heaven. Then in the prayer after Holy Communion, the priest asks God that the mystery celebrated may have an effect on our lives.

On behalf of the Parish Finance Committee I would like to thank you first of all for looking after our parish financially for many years. I thank you all for your generosity and support. This year, because of your generosity we have been able to divert some funding towards parish ministries, the sacramental program, family ministry, teaching of Scripture in public schools, youth development and the liturgical needs of the parish. Due to the selfless contributions of some parishioners, we were able to install solar panels over our parish hall roof to promote the care of the environment and clean energy and also to save the parish about \$2500 per year. We were also able to do some minor repairs to the roof to stop some leaks, and to replace a damaged section of ceiling. We have widened the parish kitchen to accommodate the growing needs of the parish, the school, and those parish groups who use the hall. We have carefully managed the parish finances and made significant savings, and so we have been able to reduce our overall parish debt from \$515,000 to \$245,000 over the past two years or so, but we need to continue this work to gradually eliminate the debt. What about the future? As soon as we are financially capable, we intend to do the following:

- Pay off all our remaining loan so the parish will be debt free.
- Install solar batteries to connect to our existing solar panels to make full use of the clean energy we are producing and to reduce our reliance on the electricity grid
- We dream of installing centralised air conditioning to make our church more conducive to prayer in both summer and winter.
- We wish to repolish and revarnish parts of our church ceiling to protect it from the elements.
- We want to maintain our beautiful pipe organ in good working order
- We hope to install an industrial dishwasher in the hall kitchen to lighten the load of those parishioners who look after our hospitality needs, especially at the bigger events such as funerals, and other school and parish special events.
- We are a welcoming parish and we want to organise more activities for all parishioners that will enhance their faith formation, and especially we want to involve the youth and young families.

Unfortunately the cost of everything continues to rise and the parish is not immune. We depend on the income from our weekly envelopes and monthly credit card and direct debit donations to fund our parish activities. A number of our very generous elderly parishioners have either passed away or moved to nursing homes and can no longer contribute, or have retired and have had to cease or reduce their contributions. This leaves a shortfall in our income and so we request that all families become regular donors. Please complete the form on the Wardens' table to commence regular giving through weekly envelopes, or through monthly credit card or direct debit deductions. If you already contribute regularly, can you look at the possibility of increasing your contribution (remember a cup of coffee these days costs close to \$5), and this can also be done by completing the form on the Wardens' table. It is the contribution of each one of us that enables our parish to survive and grow - however large or small, each is important. A cheerful giver is the pride of every community. Thank you for your support. Thank you for listening and especially for acting on it. God bless each cheerful giver. Carl Moll, Chair, Parish Finance Committee

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PARISH INFORMATION

Sacraments

Confessions: Sat 4.45-5.15pm
 Baptisms: By Appointment
 Weddings: By Appointment

Office Hours: 9.30am - 3.00pm

Monday to 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:

Juliana Khnouf
 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 12 AND 13 August 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 Schneiders, Chris O'Meara	Rodney Moffitt	Steve Newton
Welcomer	Margaret Moore		Suzanne McGrath
1 st Reading	John Kileen	Ann Keating	Patricia Munane
2 nd Reading	Joe Grange	Elizabeth Konza	Avril Llewellyn
Intercession	Reg Moore	John Isaksen	Erin Kelly
IT Operator	Henry Hanko	Ellen Teece	Jim McLoughlin
Music	Mathew Phillips		Naomi Cheeseman
Presentation of the Gifts	Allan & Eileen Jones	David & Dianne Shatford	Dorothea Walsh Margaret Christensen
Minister of Communion	Sybil Mason Thea Robertson Brian Robertson Richard Mason Margaret Richards Anthony Toutounji Andrew Wilson	Kath Tierney Jim Tierney Gwen Cullinan Ann Keating	John Mullane Juliana Khnouf Mari McDonald Gerard Egan Garry Purchasehouse Volunteer Please Volunteer Please
Children's Liturgy	Ruth		
Cashier	Ann Keating, Pat Bell & Robyn Flynn		
Hospitality	Anne King, Daren and Liz Dukes and Grace Buckley		
Church Care	Kath King, Kath & Jim Tierney, Eileen Jones and Gwen Cullinan		
Piety Stall at 9.30am Mass	Beth Culliver		



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