



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

20th Sunday in Ordinary time Year A

19 and 20 August 2017

Is 56:1, 6-7; Ps 66; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

Reflection on the Gospel

This week's gospel provides a fascinating illustration of Jesus' response to those in need. Jesus has travelled to the area of Tyre and Sidon – part of modern day Lebanon. He was physically removing himself from the place of his very active ministry and taking a break. When the Canaanite woman approaches Jesus and his disciples, she is an interruption; a nuisance. Jesus is very abrupt with her. He tells her simply that his ministry is to the house of Israel – the Jews – and is not for her. But the woman is persistent and again asks Jesus to help her. Jesus is even more abrupt and tells her that it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs. Through this use of metaphor, Jesus refers to the children of Israel (the Jews) and to the gentiles and pagans – sometimes referred to as 'dogs' to reflect their lowly status in the



eyes of the Jewish tradition. Still the woman persists and turns Jesus' metaphor back on him, saying that even the dogs get to eat the scraps that fall from the table. The woman's persistence and faith pay off. Jesus is moved by her faith and through that faith heals the woman's daughter. Despite his initial abruptness and reluctance, Jesus responds with compassion to the woman's request. It is as though she needed to demonstrate that she was really serious and that she did in fact believe that Jesus could make a difference in her life and the life of her daughter. This is an important story in Matthew's gospel. This gospel was written predominantly for Jewish Christians but this story reveals that the ministry of Jesus and the reign of God is open to anyone who believes.

Reflection by Greg Sunter

A New Industrial Dish and Glass Washer is installed in the Parish Hall kitchen to make the work of the hospitality and pastoral care committee easier at Funerals and other special parish celebrations as well as those who use the hall for different celebrations like birthdays, parish grand morning teas and school children's graduation celebrations etc. With the installation of the dishwasher, we also wish to avoid the plastic cups and plates and be nature friendly. It just takes 60 to 180 seconds to do the washing and is easy to use. We thank the following people for their hard work: Lina Wiecek and her sister Rose for organising it, Pat Watson for the electrical work, Kevin Lloyd for the Plumbing and Vince Dobson for the carpentry work. Thanks everyone. Father Jolly

Sunday 20 August 20th Sunday in Ordinary time Year A	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Confirmation Preparation 1.30pm Bridge 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm Senior Youth Group	Thursday 24 August St Bartholomew	9.00am Mass 1.30pm Bridge. P/C 7:30pm Blue Labyrinth Dancers P/C
Monday 21 August St Pius X	9.00am Mass.	Friday 25 August	9.00am Mass followed by Benediction. 1.00 pm Bowlers. P/C
Tuesday 22 August <i>The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.00am Mass 4.00pm Organ and Concert Committee meeting M/R	Saturday 26 August	9.00am Mass 4.30pm Confirmation Preparation 4.45pm- 5.15pm Reconciliation 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Wednesday 23 August	8.00am Mass followed by Rosary. 9.30am Playgroup P/C 11.30am Cantabile. Church. 7.00pm Bridge. P/C	Sunday 27 August 21st 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

St Finbar's Parish Trivia Night

When: Saturday, 16 September

Time: 6.45pm

Where: Hall

Cost: \$10 per head

Please join us for what we hope will become an Annual Event at St Finbar's!

Why not form a table of 8 people with your friends? Or just come along and make some new friends by joining a team that needs additional players. Children aged 12 and over are welcome to join a table. Young kids will be looked after in the Parish Meeting Room. We will also be selling raffle tickets leading up to the day so please keep an eye out for these next weekend. We have some fantastic prizes which have been donated by Parishioners. The main purpose of the evening is to build community and have a fun night. The funds raised will be put towards the new Tesla Battery for the Solar Power System that will be installed to make full use of our Solar system.

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.

"Walking with Refugees and People Seeking Protection"

The aim of the Journey is to galvanise a Diocese-wide, faith-filled urge to bring about a community and political culture that values fair and compassionate treatment of people seeking refuge and protection in Australia.

The launch will take place during Migrant and Refugee Week

Sunday 27 August 2017 from 2pm to 4pm Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall 7 Grantham St Seven Hills

Our special guest speaker will be Father Tom Smolich SJ, the newly appointed Refugee Chaplain

St Finbars community would like to wish Stan Callaghan a very Happy 90th Birthday. Stan's birthday was on 16th of August. Stan and Beryl have been parishioners at St Finbars for 51 years. Beryl and the family took Stan on holiday for his 90th birthday to Uluru.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED: Tony Visser, Peter Bryant, Janet Tulk, Robyn Connors, Father Anthony Reynolds, Jack McGlynn, Emma Gleeson, and Baby Valentina Twyford.

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, and Cliff McHardy.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: John Cloran, Betty Grange, Edward Keough, Laurence Rowe, Handley Sweeney, Margaret Smith, Angela Plevy, Bruno De Mattia, Yvonne Price, and Elizabeth Sefton.

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LEURA MEMORIAL GARDENS FUNERALS

St. Finbar's Parish News

DO YOU KNOW: WHY WE LIGHT CANDLES AT MASS?

Candles have always been used in the church in a symbolic way. From ancient times the lighted candle has been seen as a symbol of the light of Christ. This is clearly expressed at the Easter Vigil, when the priest enters the darkened church with the single Easter Candle. Jesus came into our world of sin and death to bring the light of God to us. It is expressed clearly in the Gospel according to John: "I am the Light of the world. He who follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the Light of Life" (John

8:12).

Secondly candles remind us of the early Christians who celebrated Mass in the Catacombs by candle light and it should remind us of the sacrifice they made.

Thirdly candle lights are traditionally made of pure wax extracted by bees from flowers symbolizes the pure flesh of Christ received from His Virgin Mother, the wick signifies the Soul of Christ, and the flame represents his divinity.

Postal plebiscite on "same-sex marriage" announced

The Australian Government has announced there will be a postal plebiscite on whether the definition of marriage in the Marriage Act 1961 should be changed to include "same-sex marriage". Ballot papers will be sent out to households on Tuesday, 12 September and all votes must be received back by Tuesday, 7 November. If you are not enrolled to vote, or if you need to update your postal address, go to www.aec.gov.au/enrol/ before the cut-off date of **Thursday, 24 August**. Vote **No**, to keep marriage as a unique relationship between a woman and a man.

Fun Singers: Monday 21st August visit to Buckland is **cancelled** due to a flu outbreak at the Nursing Home. Marie.

SHARING OUR FAITH Join our introductory course in sharing our faith with children – a joyful and rewarding ministry—at Our Lady of the Way, Emu Plains Mondays, commencing 28 August 2017, 9.30am-2.30pm. Enquiries Beth 4739.8577.

Positions Vacant: Parish Secretary - St Anthony of Padua Parish, Toongabbie. For more information or to apply please visit: parracatholic.org/employment

A red twins pram was left at the Parish Hall if it belongs to you please contact the Parish office on 47398928.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 27 August 2017

This week on the Journey, the Gospel of Mathew reminds us to keep strong in our Faith. We hear from Sr Hilda with her Wisdom from the Abbey in her 90 second testimonial on A Life with God, Pete Gilmore encourages us to Live Big in his Living the Gospel segment, and Marilyn Rodrigues, The Peaceful Parent talks about the 5 Ps of parenting. Our God spots flow together to create a show that is all about faith, hope, love and life. Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

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

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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 26 AND 27 August 2017

Liturgical Ministries	5.30 pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Marie Hurley	Rodney Moffitt	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Anaru Veitch	Peter McMahon	Stephen Brown
Junior Server	Riley Farrell		Anna Santoro Mitchell Mathew
Warden	Reg Moore	Rodney Moffitt	Gary Clune
Welcomer	Nora Cordoba		Erika McNay
1 st Reading	Beth Culliver	Mary Creenaune	Briony Mowbray
2 nd Reading	Maureen Tulk	Ann Keating	Jesse Mowbray
Intercession	Jacqui Visser	Kevin Flynn	Frank Fitzpatrick
IT Operator	Kylie Mills	Andrew Teece	Amie Farrell
Music	Te Deum		J Long & M Lopez
Presentation of the Gifts	Margaret Moore Jan de Bie	Ann & Ray Keating	Tom Torrance
Minister of Communion	Julie Fehon Vince Dobson Georgina Barisic Lorraine Brown Allan Jones Volunteer Please Volunteer Please	Terry Madden Doris Field Rodney Moffitt Volunteer Please	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 Nassif, Kerry and Peter Herborn		
Church Care	Jeannine Ashbee, Deb Youngman, Leesa & Wayne Gillard		
Garden Club	Lucas Rajnoch, Andrew Howard, Stuart Sheary and Daniel Lynch		
Piety Stall at 9.30am Mass	Ann Marie King		



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