



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

21st Sunday in Ordinary time Year A

26 and 27 August 2017

Is 22:19-23; Ps 137; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

Reflection on the Gospel

The readings highlight two different but related themes: the character of our understanding of Christ, and our understanding of discipleship that flows from it. Christological reflections reach a climax in the question posed to the disciples: Who do you say I am? In this liturgical context, the same question is posed to us. Who is this one who multiplies loaves of bread, who walks on turbulent waters, who breaks the boundaries that separate insider from outsider? It is none other than the Messiah.

When Peter testified to Jesus' identity, it was a relevant religious and political statement, for messianic expectation was a burning question at that time. But what does it mean for the average Christian today? Many believers consider messianic expectation a



theological theme that belongs to the past. They feel that it is difficult to get excited about the coming of someone who we believe has already come and gone. If Jesus were to pose this question today, how would we answer? Like Peter, we too may have good intentions, but when they are put to the test we realise that that was all that they were – good intentions.

Still, we should not be discouraged by our weaknesses, for just as Peter's failure did not deter God from entrusting him with power and authority, so our failures need not be obstacles to God's grace in our lives. We watch God entrust the church to individuals who are weak and undependable, and we realise that judgments are inscrutable and God's ways unsearchable.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS

BISHOP'S COLLECTION FOR RETIRED AND SICK CLERGY

The Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese of Parramatta assists in meeting the needs of the retired and sick priests of the Diocese, and an annual appeal, *The Bishop's Collection for Retired and Sick Clergy*, is held on Father's Day weekend, 2/3 September, to support the Foundation. It is hoped to raise \$200,000 this year. A third collection will be held on this weekend at each Mass. Special envelopes will be available and all donations over \$2 are tax deductible. If you wish to claim a tax deduction, please tick the box and write your details clearly on the envelope. Appeal envelopes are available at the Wardens' Table this weekend for those who will not be here on the Father's Day weekend.

Sunday 27 August 21st Sunday in Ordinary time Year A	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Confirmation Preparation 11.00 Baptism	Thursday 31 August	9.00am Mass 1.30pm Bridge. P/C 7:30pm Blue Labyrinth Dancers P/C
Monday 28 August St Augustine	9.00am Mass. 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R	Friday 1 September	8.00am School's Father's Day breakfast P/C 9.00am Mass followed by Benediction. 10.00 First Friday Visits 1.00 pm Bowlers. P/C
Tuesday 29 August <i>The Passion of</i> <i>St. John the</i> <i>Baptist</i>	9.00am Mass 7.30pm Pastoral Council Meeting M/R	Saturday 2 September	9.00am Mass 4.45pm- 5.15pm Reconciliation 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Wednesday 30 August	8.00am Mass followed by Rosary. 9.30am Playgroup P/C 11.30am Cantabile. Church. 7.00pm Bridge. P/C	Sunday 3 September 22nd Sunday in Ordinary time Year A	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 3.00pm Confirmation Rehearsal 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm Senior Youth Group

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.



MENS' BREAKFAST:

The parish was once again host for a very successful Men's Breakfast held last Saturday. About 60 men attended and enjoyed a wonderful breakfast and a short talk about woodworking opportunities in the local area. Many thanks to Carl Moll, John de Mattia, Lina Wiecek and her granddaughters Stella, Imani and Scarlett Jurd, Vicky Ang,



Sue Meads and Lucy Twyford for the organising, preparing, serving and cleaning up after the meal. Thanks also to Carl for his donation of two food warmers to the parish for use at functions such as this. The new dishwasher also got its initiation and appeared to work extremely well.

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.

SCRIPTURE CLASSES: We are happy to announce that we are starting Scripture Classes in the Blaxland High School this coming semester. Which was a long awaited dream of our Parish Community. Congratulations to all our Catechists.

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 ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Les McDermott, Willy Boere, Andrew Wiecek, Ellen Fall, Maria Pay, Richard Nagle, Hermanus Voom, James Griffin, Shiela Anderson, Walter Quealy, Noel Gibson, Mary McKenzie, Michael Price, Valma Jones, Eileen Trevaskis, Hugh Smith, and Anna Instance.

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...saddest journey of the human heart"

LEURA MEMORIAL GARDENS FUNERALS

St. Finbar's Parish News

As we celebrate the Refugees and Migrants week we pray for them.

A PRAYER FOR REFUGEES AND PEOPLE SEEKING PROTECTION

God of mercy Impel me to hear Jesus' command *Love one another, as I have loved you*
Which excludes nothing and no one. Daring to step into such relationship, I pray
For those forced to leave family, Home and all they hold dear;
I pray that we Australians, citizens and leaders, open our eyes, our minds and our hearts
That we may see, understand and welcome our brothers and sisters.
May our change of heart penetrate to our beginnings as strangers in this land.
May we allow those we displaced, the First People of this land, to welcome us.
Then knowing, in humility, what it is to be welcomed we will know how to welcome
The strangers who come to our shores.
This we ask in the name of Jesus your Son in whom we are no longer strangers

CHURCH PAINTING: Some parts of the varnished ceiling outside the church urgently need repainting to prevent further deterioration. If any parishioner is a commercial painter, or has contact with one, Fr Jolly would like to hear from you. He needs to get some quotes to see if we can afford to get the work done.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2017: Caritas Australia extends our most heartfelt thanks to each and every person and parish who supported Project Compassion 2017. With your generosity and creativity, together we raised over \$11 million for the most vulnerable communities around the world. THANK YOU for making a difference.

DID YOU KNOW: St Finbar's Primary School now has Before and After School Care on site for students who attend St Finbar's Primary School. New families, please contact the school office on 47243600 to enrol for 2018. Please feel free to share this information with family, friends and neighbours.

THE PIETY STALL has got a wide range of gifts for Baptisms, Confirmation, First Communion, Cards, Saints Medals and a lot more. Don't forget to check the new items after the 5.30 or 9.30 Mass.

NEW CHURCH CARE ROSTERS

All rosters have now been emailed or for those with no internet access please collect from the Narthex.

EUTHANASIA AND ASSISTED SUICIDE: A Petition to oppose the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill is available on the Warden's table for signing.

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS: 7 September. The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth cordially invite YOUTH (age 18-35) to join us for Holy Hour for Vocations Thursday, 7th September 2017, at 7:00 pm. Join us also for the pizza at 8:00pm. Holy Spirit Convent, 120 Capuchin Way, Plumpton. RSVP: Sr Paula on vocationscsfn@gmail.com or 0449 656 406

OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA warmly invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on Wednesday, September 6, 2017. Tour the College and discover how a Mercy Education empowers girls to expand beyond what they know they can be and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team. The College is now enrolling for 2019. Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au to reserve your place or contact the Registrar 8838 1222 to discuss how your daughter can become a Mercy Girl.

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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 2 AND 3 September 2017

Liturgical Ministries	5.30 pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Peter McMahon	Rodney Moffitt	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Peter McMahon	Carl Moll	Garry Pursehouse
Junior Server	Patrick, Alex & Johnny McLoughlin		Hannah Stanford
Warden	Vince Dobson & Allan Jones	Rodney Moffitt	Volunteer Please
Welcomer	Carmel Dobson		Tom Torrance
1 st Reading	Beth Culliver	David Shatford	Pearse Cremin
2 nd Reading	Eileen Jones	Margaret Dickson	Ruth Gott
Intercession	Reg Moore	Rodney Moffitt	Martin Rogers
IT Operator	Bernadette Shalala	Elizabeth Konza	Sean Farrell
Music	Finbarr Choir		J Long & Anne Hobbs
Presentation of the Gifts	Noreen Taylor Janice Smith	Maria Heinzl Stanis Drobiszewski	Gott Family
Minister of Communion	Beth Gibbeson John Verhoeven Kylie Mills Sandra O'Meara Chris O'Meara Reg Moore Natasha Mills	Margaret Dickson Ian Dickson Colleen Fuller Volunteer Please	Stephen Brown Wendy Brown Sue McGrath Bernie Fisher Volunteer Please Volunteer Please Volunteer Please
Children's Liturgy	Christyna		
Cashier	Margaret Christensen & Ruth Gott		
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek, Tom Torrance, Vicky Ang and Lucie Da Graca Twyford		
Church Care	Robyn Flynn, Jan de Bie, Kim Instance, Jessica Doherty		
Piety Stall at 9.30am Mass	Carmel Higgins		



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