



# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

32nd Sunday in Ordinary time Year A

11th and 12th of November 2017

Wis 6:12-16; Ps 62; 1Thess 4:13-18; Mt 25:1-13

<b>Sunday</b> <b>12 November</b> <b>32nd Sunday In Ordinary Time Year A</b>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> 10.45am Communion Preparation Meeting P/C <b>11.00am Baptism</b> 3.00pm Academy Singers Concert
<b>Monday</b> <b>13 November</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>14 November</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>15 November</b>	<b>8.00am Mass followed by Rosary</b> 9.30am Playgroup P/C 11.30am Cantabile. Church. 7.00pm Bridge P/C
<b>Thursday</b> <b>16 November</b>	<b>10.00am Healing Mass followed by morning tea.</b> 10.00-12.30 Bridge Lessons M/R 1.30pm Bridge. P/C 7.30pm Blue Labyrinth Dancers P/C
<b>Friday</b> <b>17 November</b> <i>St Elizabeth of Hungary</i>	<b>9.00am Mass followed by Benediction</b> 11.00am Funeral Service 1.00 pm Bowlers. P/C
<b>Saturday</b> <b>18 November</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>4.45pm– 5.15pm Reconciliation</b> <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b> <b>19 November</b> <b>33rd Sunday In Ordinary Time Year A</b>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> 1.30pm Bridge P/C 3.00pm Holy Communion Rehearsal <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b> 7.00pm Senior Youth Group

## Reflection on the Gospel



The three Gospel accounts from the final three weeks leading up to the season of Advent all come from Chapter 25 of the Gospel of Matthew. They can be seen together as an extended treatise on living life in response to Jesus' message and preparing for the end of time. This week's gospel starts out as a Kingdom parable and becomes a bit more of a metaphor for living a Christian life.

The gospel parable relates to ten bridesmaids – five foolish and five wise – who are participating in a wedding ritual that involves meeting the bridegroom and escorting him the last part of his way to the wedding reception. The foolish bridesmaids have not brought sufficient reserves of oil for their lamps and have to leave at the critical time to try to obtain more. When they eventually arrive at the reception hall they are turned away because they have shamed themselves as well as the bride and groom by not fulfilling their duty.

Some of the original audience of Matthew's gospel, along with many of the early Christian followers, had an expectation that Jesus was going to return and usher in the end of the world in their lifetime. The message of this gospel is captured in Jesus' final words, 'So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.' The timing of Jesus' coming cannot be predicted and so all Christian believers, like the bridesmaids, need to continue to act with hope and expectation; being prepared for the fact that it may be further off than anticipated. Many early Christians were living their lives as though the world would end at any time. The gospel warns them, and us, to continue to follow the example of Jesus and not to become complacent – expecting that everything is about to come to an end.

Reflection by Greg Sunter

**2018 RELIGIOUS CALENDARS.** Franciscan and Columban 2018 Calendars are now available at the Wardens' table for the modest price of \$6 Franciscan and \$9 Columban. The Franciscan Calendars have the School Term Holidays.

**BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE.** The Book of Remembrance is on permanent display in the Sanctuary during the month of November. Parishioners can add the names of any family members or loved ones who have passed to eternal life. Please do not enter any names that are already in the book.

**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

## **BISHOP VINCENT LONG OFM CONV STATEMENT ON MANUS ISLAND**

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop Delegate for Migrants and Refugees has issued a statement on behalf of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, following the closure of the Manus Island Centre. He states: "The policy of offshore detention has failed and it is time for us to deal with the issue of asylum seekers and refugees according to this nation's proud tradition and the best nature of its citizens. We can do a whole lot better, just as we did welcome "those who've come across the seas" after the wars in Europe and in Southeast Asia. The concern for maritime border security does not have to make us into a mean-spirited people. The policy of offshore detention has cost Australia dearly. But it has cost the detainees and their families even more. I appeal to the government and political leaders to act in accordance with our honourable tradition. It is time to find an alternative and conscionable solution, including accepting New Zealand's offer of resettlement and bringing the remaining detainees on Manus Island to Australia for further processing."

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL PARISHIONERS:**

We are pleased to announce the launch of *The Catholic Foundation* next weekend (18 & 19 November), when it will officially replace the *Diocesan Works Fund* as the central charity for the good works of the Diocese of Parramatta.

*The Catholic Foundation* will support the Seminary, CCD, the Ephpheta Centre and Catholic Care.

In support of *The Catholic Foundation*, our Parish will be holding a special collection next weekend. Appeal Envelopes will be provided at the Masses, and we invite all Parishioners to support the good works of the Diocese of Parramatta, by coming prepared and giving generously to *The Catholic Foundation* Appeal next weekend.

## **PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY:**

We are having our annual Christmas get together on Sunday the 3rd of December after the 9.30am Mass. We will have the party in the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate to share.



## **BECOME A CATECHIST, A SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHER! What is an SRE or Catechist?**

Special Religious Educators (SREs) also known as Catechists are parish volunteers who:

- Teach and share the Catholic faith with children of their parish who attend government schools.
- Have a passion for sharing the gift of faith with young people.
- Have an hour per week to prepare and share their time and talents with young people.
- Are people who respond to the central mission of the Church to make Jesus known and loved.

In this parish Special Religious Educators, SREs, (previously known as Catechists) go into six state primary schools in school hours. New volunteer SREs will be given support, training, authorised teaching materials and will start as a classroom helper. To register your interest or make further enquiries visit or call the Parish Office on 4739 8928 or your SRE Parish Co-Ordinator on 4739 8577 or [feecull@tpg.com.au](mailto:feecull@tpg.com.au)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:** Marjory Etherington, Terence McGrath, Anne Bell, Jack Mullane (John's Father), Lynette Fernandes (Ahyiesha D'Souza Mum), Cliff McHardy, Stan Currey, Tony Visser 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, Pam Clyne, Jacqui Visser, Jan Smith, Joan Lohrey, Joanne Macrae, Carmel Quilty Malone, John Roebuck, Colleen Nolan, Maddison Farrugia, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Shirley Glover, Little Majella and Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Patrick Broughan, Lorraine Tolhurst, Patrick Field, Alma Melville, Kenneth Hepburn, Ludgardia Way, Renee Belton-Webber, Eileen O'Keefe, Amy Mood, Brenda Amaral, John Howling, Kathleen Roberts, Marjorie Fitzgibbons, Sheila Hammerton, Beverley Pembroke, Mary McGee.

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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

**CHURCH ROOFING MAINTENANCE.** The repair and maintenance of the church roof is almost complete. All that remains is for the parish to find sufficient funds to pay for it all (donations still gratefully accepted). The parish would like to thank Joe Blazevic and his company, Kross Building Services, for an excellent job with minimal intrusion into normal parish activities.

In addition to the contacted work, the company also performed these additional tasks at no cost to the parish:

- Repaired and cleaned the church windows
- Repainted the cross on the roof, and repaired or replaced roofing screws
- Repaired some flashing and cleaned out and repaired the box gutter
- Re sanded the timber entrance doors

**CARING FOR CARERS - CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA.** Carers and others who would like to join us are MOST WELCOME. 21st November, 10am - 12noon. This will be our last gathering for the year. You may wish share a memorable Christmas event or item as we chat over a cuppa. Kath 47392651 or [ktierney@Bigpond.net.au](mailto:ktierney@Bigpond.net.au). A change of name next year - TIME OUT Tuesday

### **SUNDAY AFTERNOON CONCERT AT ST. FINBAR'S ENTITLED "THE MYSTERY OF THE EARTH"**

Music for choir and organ, exploring our connection to the earth and beyond. This will be a wonderfully relaxing concert performed by Academy Singers, an experienced and well known choir, directed by the esteemed Paul Terracini and accompanied by organist Amy Johansen. Amy, who is also an Honorary Carillonist at Sydney University, will play music by Haydn and Mendelssohn.

Choral music by Bainton, Mendelssohn, Lauridsen, Whitacre and young Australian composer Ban van Tienen. Adults \$25, Concession \$20, Child \$10. **Sunday 12 November at 3pm. Enq. 4754 1780**

**THE PARRAMATTA LITURGY CONFERENCE:** 7 people attended the Conference, it was very enriching and they learned so much.

**SPECIAL EDITION OF CATHOLIC OUTLOOK.** At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook will be back in print for a special, one-off December 2017 Christmas edition. This special edition will be a beautifully bound, 40-page, A4 magazine and will showcase the work of the parishes, ministries and agencies of the Diocese of Parramatta. Look out for copies in your parishes and schools from Monday 4 December.

**BECOME AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF ST FINBAR'S COMMUNITY** There are many opportunities to become more involved with your community here at St Finbar's.

- The following liturgical Ministries currently have vacancies:
- Senior Server      - Junior Server      - Sacristan      - Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion
  - Musician              - Choir Member

In addition, you could also volunteer as a Catechist, as a counter, or as a church cleaner. We also need assistance with maintenance of the buildings and grounds, with hospitality and with the Piety Stall.

If you are interested, please give your details to Fr Jolly who will arrange for the appropriate person to contact you.

**OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA** warmly invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on Wednesday, November 15, 2017- the last tour of the year. 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. Visit [www.olmc.nsw.edu.au](http://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.

**THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE.** Are you looking for a different way to start the new year? The Epiphany Pilgrimage is a 7 day, 110 km Catholic pilgrimage through the Blue Mountains which coincides with the Feast of the Epiphany in early January. For more information please check the noticeboard in the Narthex.

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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 18 & 19 NOVEMBER 2017

Liturgical Ministries	5.30 pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Rodney Moffitt	Dawn Willis
Senior Server	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Carl Moll	Martin Rogers
Junior Server	Joshua Toutounji & Dominic Scanlan		Andy Rogers & Alex Walker
Warden	Lorraine Brown	Rodney Moffitt	Frank Fitzpatrick
Welcomer	Paul Etherington		Peter & Trish Hurley
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Ralph Maples	Maura Williams	Peter or Trish Hurley
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Gideon Goosen	Geraldine Lohan	Kylie Lane
Intercession	Reg Moore	John De Mattia	Ruth Gott
IT Operator	Henry Hanko	Ralph Maples	Amie Farrell
Music	Cantabile		Ruth's Group
Presentation of the Gifts	Lee Family	Kay Whitty	Tom Torrance
Minister of Communion	Marie Hurley Pat Barrett John Killeen Jacqui Visser Gwen Cullinan Bernie Fisher Volunteer Please	Terry Keogh Helen Keogh Jemmy Brickwood Jean Di Nucci	Therese Luczak Annissa Nilsson Irene Aligno Carmel Higgins Volunteer Please Volunteer Please Volunteer Please
Children's Liturgy	Christyna		
Cashier	Geoff Shalala & Erika McNay		
Hospitality	Trish & Peter Hurley, Maggie Trevena, Irene & Bert Adamson		
Church Care	Veronica Clune, Fran Isaksen & St. Finbars Playgroup		
Piety Stall at 9.30am Mass	Lee Jackson & Louise Heber		



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