



# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

25th and 26th of November 2017

Ezek 34:11-12,15-17; Ps 22; 1 Cor 15:20-26,28; Mt 25:31-46

<b>Sunday 26 November</b> <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King Of The Universe</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am First Holy Communion Mass</b> <b>11.30am Baptism</b>
<b>Monday 27 November</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b>
<b>Tuesday 28 November</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday 29 November</b>	<b>8.00am Mass followed by Rosary</b> 9.30am Playgroup P/C 11.30am Cantabile. Church. 1.00pm Funeral for Senator Stephen Hutchins 7.00pm Bridge P/C
<b>Thursday 30 November</b> <i>St. Andrew, apostle</i>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> 10.00-12.30 Bridge Lessons M/R 1.30pm Bridge. P/C 7.30pm Blue Labyrinth Dancers P/C
<b>Friday 1 December</b>	<b>9.00am Mass followed by Benediction</b> 10.00am First Friday Visits 1.00pm Bowlers Christmas Party P/C
<b>Saturday 2 December</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> 11.30 Te Deum's Choir Practice <b>4.45pm– 5.15pm Reconciliation</b> <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday 3 December</b> <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> 10.30am Church Christmas Party P/C <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b> 7.00pm Senior Youth Group

## Reflection on the Gospel

We have now come to the end of the liturgical year, the point that marks the transition from one period to another. Today we see that the kingdom of God is inclusive. Its embrace is as comprehensive as is the embrace of God. Criteria for membership are not based on obedience to the commandments or on conformity to ritual obligation, but on the bonds of love and concern.



What we do for others, we do for Christ, because Christ is identified with those in need. We very seldom see the face of the glorified Christ in the faces of the needy; it is more often the face of the disfigured Christ that is turned to us. We see his fear and his shame, his brokenness and sense of loss. As difficult as it may be to look into such eyes, it is precisely the needy with whom Christ is identified.

Having entered into the frailty of human nature, identified himself with the needy, and handed himself over to death, in the end Christ will have conquered all. It is a curious kingdom that he has won, a kingdom of the weak rather than the strong. He has turned the standards of the world upside down. He has shown that it does not take strength to ignore or to exploit the needy, but it does take strength to overcome our own selfishness in order to serve them. The kingdom that Christ hands over to God is a kingdom of love and care.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS

## PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY:

We are having our annual Christmas Party 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. All Welcome.

**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.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ON THIS WEEKEND:

Father Jolly and St. Finbar's Community would like to Congratulate the Children who are receiving Holy Communion for the first time this weekend, may God bless them all.

**WELCOME** all visitors to our church today. We extend our greetings to you. If you wish to join St Finbar's

# ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

## **CALLING PROSPECTIVE CHORISTERS!**

I will be running the Midnight Mass choir for this year, and as always, we need as many singers as we can get. Any singers in the Parish are most welcome to join, and practice times will be tailored to suit the availability of as many people as possible. If you are interested in singing at this wonderful occasion, please contact me via email ([mhy.phillips@gmail.com](mailto:mhy.phillips@gmail.com)) or telephone (4739 5782). Matthew Phillips

## **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2017**

### **Christmas Hampers**

This year we will be following the format where families, groups or individuals make up and donate a full hamper or contribute items to be included in a hamper. ***Please ensure that all food items are within the expiry date***. A suggested items list is available for collection at the Warden's Table.

### **Christmas Gift Tree**

The Christmas Gift tree will be put up this week and if parishioners wish to support this activity then please take a tag from the tree or wardens table, purchase a gift for a child as suggested on the tag and return the wrapped gift with the tag securely attached to the outside.

All hampers/items and gifts will need to be left at the church no later than **Friday 15 December 2017**.

**We will need helpers at 9.00am on Saturday 16 December to assist with the delivery of the hampers. If you are able to assist us with this task please leave your name and contact details with the wardens.**

**We will also be holding a leaving collection after all masses on the weekend of Saturday/Sunday 16/17 December which will be our SVDP Christmas Appeal. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated and will support our work in 2018.**

Thank you, fellow parishioners, for your generosity in helping to make this festive season special for families in need this Christmas.

## **PIETY STALL NEW CHRISTMAS STOCK:**

New Christmas items now available on the Piety Stall like Set of Cards \$3 for 8 or \$4 for 10, Nativity Sets and Christmas Decorations. Please come and check it out

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS TO BE HELD AT SPRINGWOOD ST THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH** A warm invitation is extended to Parishioners & friends to attend an evening of beautiful Christmas Carols which will be performed by St Thomas Aquinas Parish Choir together with Bible Readings to be held at **St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, 168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood on MONDAY 18th DECEMBER commencing 7.30 P.M.** Admission is free & supper will be served at the conclusion of the evening.

**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 ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Max Callaghan, Martha Callaghan, Arthur Callaghan, Monica Moffitt, Frederick Moffitt, Cecil White, Nicholas Haddock, Glenna Vadensteen, Shirley Noyes, Harold Mitchell, David Miles, Frank Kroehnert and Lawrence Dunne.

We value cost and care as much as you do



**BLUE MOUNTAINS  
— FUNERALS —**

KATOOMBA | SPRINGWOOD | EMU PLAINS  
4751 6166 | [bluemountainsfunerals.com.au](http://bluemountainsfunerals.com.au)

**Bateman Battersby**  
L A W Y E R S

*We invite members of the parish to take advantage of our legal services specialising in :*

• Property Law	• Family Law
• Business Law	• Negligence Law
• Wills & Estates	• Court Appearances

**Phone: 02 47315899**  
**[www.batemanbattersby.com.au](http://www.batemanbattersby.com.au)**  
**[Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au](mailto:Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au)**

**Funerals at St. Finbars**

*Personal care and understanding of Catholic Liturgy. At your service 24/7.  
Phone 4751 8000.*

*"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

## PARISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY:

**School:** Project based learning has been introduced in our school community. Two of St. Finbar's students have received Fred Hollows Awards. The school roof has been fixed. St. Finbar's day was celebrated with Mass and fun filled rides afterwards. The school Amazing Race was a great success. A new App for Schools Called Skool Bag was introduced this term.

**Parish:** Major repairs finished. Men's Breakfast went well with a Father and Son Encounter Breakfast proposed. A Women's Supper to follow. The Liturgy Committee already started to plan for Christmas and Easter. The Parish Trivia was a great night which brought the whole community together. 7 members attended the Diocesan Liturgy Conference. We will organise and talk to the Parish about getting more members as volunteers to different ministries. The Baptism coordinators plan to invite all the families of the Children who were Baptised within the last year or two to come for a special Mass and Celebrations after.

## CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH MUSIC AND SONG AT ST. FINBARS

**Music and Readings for Christmas** - St Finbar's traditional Christmas concert anticipated by the entire community will be held this year on **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm**. Massed Choir, Readings, Harp, Handbells, Soloists and Brass. Join the great organ in singing carols with the choir and congregation, and rejoice in the Hallelujah Chorus with trumpets and timpani. Donation: Families \$35, individuals \$15. Bring the family, friends and neighbours. Proceeds towards the upkeep and maintenance of the organ. Enquiries 4754 1780.

## ST. FINBAR'S SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT IS ON MONDAY THE 4TH OF DECEMBER AT 6.30PM.

Come and join the students and the school families with a night full of Christmas songs and beautiful music.

## FREE CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH.

Join us for morning tea and or lunch. **No cost, no strings!**

10am - 2pm Christmas Day 2017,  
Sharon Burridge Hall, Lower Mountains Neighbourhood Centre  
33 Hope ST Blaxland

Next to the library

Call us on 47391164 (or pop in) to secure a seat at the great Village Christmas Table!

## THE BANGLADESH ROHINGYA EMERGENCY.

Is the fastest growing refugee crisis in the world and UNHCR has declared it a Level 3 emergency, its highest level of alert. More than 613,000 Rohingya refugees have been forced to flee to Bangladesh since 25th August 2017. Until Saturday 9 December, the Australian government will generously match all donations, dollar for dollar, to *Australia for UNHCR's Bangladesh Rohingya Emergency Appeal*. That means your gift will provide more food for hungry families, more medicines to prevent children dying, more wells sunk to provide safe drinking water and more emergency shelters and blankets to give families a safe, dry place to sleep. <https://www.unrefugees.org.au/emergency-response/rohingya/donate/#oneoff>

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible **Phone: 1300 361 288** (within Australia),

**Street Address** Level 8, 120 Sussex Street Sydney NSW 2000

## 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.

**Registered  
Tax Agents**



FOR ALL YOUR BUSINESS & PERSONAL TAX  
MATTERS

**4731 3044**

email: [russell@denismerrick.com.au](mailto:russell@denismerrick.com.au)  
[www.denismerrick.com.au](http://www.denismerrick.com.au)

22 Woodriff Street Penrith



**Turner  
Freeman**  
Lawyers Est. 1952

Turner Freeman Lawyers have been providing members of the community with outstanding legal services since 1952 in the following areas:  
Personal injury claims |  
Wills & estate planning | Property law |  
Deceased estates & will disputes



Suite 4, 311 High Street Penrith NSW 2750

☎ 4729 5200

🌐 [www.turnerfreeman.com.au](http://www.turnerfreeman.com.au)

📧 [Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au](mailto:Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au)

**Lizzie Chase, Counselling**  
Diploma of Counselling; ACA

*A kind listening ear in times of  
need...*

Springwood

Weekends & nights

Telephone counselling available too

PH: 0421997561

Fees: Negotiable

[lizziechasecounselling@gmail.com](mailto:lizziechasecounselling@gmail.com)



## 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 & 3 DECEMBER 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 Purchasehouse
Junior Server	Patrick, Alex & Johnny McLoughlin		Volunteers Please
Warden	Vince Dobson & Allen Jones	Rodney Moffitt	Volunteer Please
Welcomer	Carmel Dobson		Lukas & Kristina Rajnoch
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Gerard Egan	Mary Creenaune	Martin Rogers
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Katy Ferris	Andrew Teece	Greg Rowe
Intercession	Reg Moore	Annie Teece	Kristina Rajnoch
IT Operator	Yvonne Etherington	Elizabeth Konza	Joseph Marceau
Music	Finbarr Choir		Jenny L & Anne H
Presentation of the Gifts	Allan & Eileen Jones	David & Dianne Shatford	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	Danielle		
Cashier	Ann Keating, Pat Bell & Robyn Flynn		
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek, Tom Torrance, Vicky Ang & Lucie Da Graca Twyford		
Church Care	Catherine Marceau, Jane Lennon, Sally Doyle, Christyna Lloyd, Nicole Young & Beth Killeen		
Piety Stall at 9.30am Mass	Carmel Higgins		



**Monaghan & Gleeson  
Funeral Directors**

4754 1900

4736 3883



"Caring  
is our  
Duty"

Servicing the Parish of Glenbrook

### **Matthew Phillips - Musician**

BA, AMusA

- Teacher of piano and singing
- Singer at weddings, funerals and other occasions
- Pianist for performance and accompaniment
- Composer/music director



Email: mhy.phillips@gmail.com

Phone: (02) 4739 5782

0481 841 704

### **EVERETT EVANS**

SOLICITORS & CONVEYANCERS

**ROS EVERETT** has been a parishioner at St. Finbar's Parish for nearly forty years. We are delighted to offer professional, friendly and reliable service to parishioners in all areas of Law including, Wills, Estates, Family Law, Local Court appearances and Personal Injury Claims.

**IF YOU NEED A SOLICITOR**  
call us on 47217333.