


The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR B

2nd & 3rd December 2017

Is 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8; PS 79; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

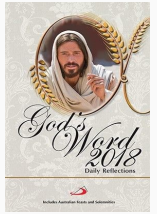
		Reflection on the Gospel
Sunday 3 December <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.30am Church Christmas Party P/C 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm Senior Youth Group	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Today's readings contain several images: the faithfulness of those who suffer, even as they lament their predicament; the admonition to watch and wait; the expectation of the coming of the Day of the Lord. As trustees of the one who is coming, we live in the 'in between' time of ambiguity and hope. The placement of these readings at the beginning of Advent shapes the context for understanding the entire season. They fix our gaze on the world of human pain and then move beyond it to the hope of a brighter future. Lamentation and expectation find fulfilment in the Day of the Lord. Waiting is a prominent image this Sunday. Some people wait to be released from suffering, others await the second coming of Christ. Waiting saps our energies and stifles our enthusiasm. Yet wait we must, and as we wait, we wonder: 'What should I be doing?' The readings suggest that we should wait with patient expectation for the day of reconciliation and peace; we should wait in joyful hope that what is to come will come soon. While we wait, we should faithfully fulfil our responsibilities. We believe that we have a future worth waiting for, that there are promises that God will keep. And so we look expectantly to the Day of the Lord, that future day of ultimate fulfilment.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS</i></p>
Monday 4 December	9.00am Mass 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R 6.30pm School Christmas Concert	
Tuesday 5 December	9.00am Mass 7.30pm Baptism Preparation	
Wednesday 6 December	8.00am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 11.30am Cantabile. Church. 7.00pm Bridge P/C	
Thursday 7 December <i>St Ambrose</i>	9.00am Mass 10.00-12.30 Bridge Lessons M/R 1.30pm Bridge. P/C 7.30pm Blue Labyrinth Dancers P/C	
Friday 8 December <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.00am Mass followed by Benediction 1.00pm Bowlers P/C	
Saturday 9 December	9.00am NO MASS 11.30 Te Deum's Choir Practice 3.00pm Parents Prayer Group P/C 4.45pm– 5.15pm Reconciliation 5.30pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 10 December <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 11.00am Baptism 1.30pm Bridge	<p>CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES: Vigil Mass at 7.00pm. Readings for the Vigil Midnight Mass. Readings for the night. Monday morning (Christmas Day) 8.30am only. Readings of the Day.</p> <p>CHRISTMAS ROSTER All qualified parishioners are invited to nominate themselves for the Liturgical Roles at one of our three Christmas Masses. There is a blank roster on the Wall of the Narthex near the Warder's table. Please write your name against any ministry vacancy that you can fill. Thank you</p> <p>PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY: We are having our annual Christmas Party this 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.</p>

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

GOD'S WORD 2018 REFLECTIONS BOOK.

The Daily readings and reflection book is available for sale this weekend from the Piety Stall. It Costs \$13 each with the saving of \$3/book. It can be a great Christmas gift.



SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION:

The Second Rite of Reconciliation will be held at Our Lady of the Way, Emu Plains on Monday the 18th of December at 7.30pm. We have joined with Emu Plains Parish for this event. All are welcome. Glenbrook Reconciliation is on Friday the 22nd of December from 10am to 11am and Saturday 23rd of December from 4.00pm to 5.15 pm.

CHURCH CLEANING:

St. Finbar's Community would like to thank KATHY KING for 38 years of great service, dedication and commitment to the Church. We wish Kathy a restful retirement and all the best for the future.

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. All Hamper items to be left at the Warden's table please by **Friday the 15th of December 2017.**

Christmas Gift Tree

The Christmas Gift tree has been put up this week and if parishioners wish to support this activity then please take a tag from the tree, purchase a gift for a child as suggested on the tag and return the wrapped gift with the tag securely attached to the outside and leave it under the tree before **Friday the 15th of 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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED: Stephen Hutchins, 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, Mary Cockburn (Catherine Beattie's Mother) and Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Thomas O'Malley, Julia Rudnicki, Ronald Lowe, Winifred Nolan, Paul Gibbeson, Carolyn Van Dyke, Phillip Moloney, Marjorie Clarke, Stephen Riddle, Stanley Lucas, Leo Hayes, John Debeck, Terence Hunt, Theresa Hemsley, Cornelius Van Der-Loo, Mary Bohan and Felice Macri.

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**LEURA MEMORIAL
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ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

NEW ROSTERS FOR 2018.

Our current rosters for all liturgies finish on the 30th January 2018. I will start processing the next roster in the next few weeks. If anyone would like to volunteer to join our many ministries, please contact me at the Parish Office 47398928 or email: secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Also, if you wish to change your commitment in the current roster please contact me before the 12th of December. Thank you, Juliana Khnouf

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 17th 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.

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) or telephone (4739 5782). Matthew Phillips

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL – MASS IN THE DOMAIN: 9 DECEMBER

All parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta are invited to attend the Mass in the Domain on Saturday 9 December for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. The Mass starts at 6.30pm and will follow an afternoon of concerts and festivities beginning at 4pm, featuring Australian and international musicians and performers.

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.

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 Burrige 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 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 9 & 10 DECEMBER 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		Christopher, Margaret & Nicolas Gott
Warden	Ken Schneiders & Chris O'Meara	Rodney Moffitt	Steve Newton
Welcomer	Margaret Moore		Suzanne McGrath
1 st Reading	Beth Culliver	Ann Keating	Carmel Higgins
2 nd Reading	Maureen Tulk	Elizabeth Konza	Erin Kelly
Intercession	Volunteer Please	John Isaksen	Irene Aligno
IT Operator	Thais Turner	Ralph Maples	Jim McLoughlin
Music	Matthew Phillips & Michael Taylor		Naomi's Group
Presentation of the Gifts	Chris & Sandra O'Meara	Kay Whitty	Tom Torrance
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 Mari McDonald Gerard Egan Garry Pursehouse Juliana Khnouf Volunteer Please Volunteer Please
Children's Liturgy	Melissa		
Cashier	Joe Grange & Ken Townsend		
Hospitality	Anne King, Daren & Liz Dukes, Grace Buckley		
Church Care	Jeannine Ashbee, Deb Youngman, Leesa & Wayne Gillard		
Piety Stall at 9.30am Mass	Beth Culliver		
Garden Club	Lucas Rajnoch, Andrew Howard, Stuart Sheary & Daniel Lynch		



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