



# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR B

9th & 10th December 2017

Is 40:1-5,9-11; Ps 84; 2 Pet 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

<b>Sunday</b> <b>10 December</b> <i>Second Sunday of Advent Year B</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>11.00am Baptism</b> <b>1.30pm Bridge</b>
<b>Monday</b> <b>11 December</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>12.00pm School Graduation Mass</b> <b>5.30pm Year 6 Graduation Dinner</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>12 December</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>13 December</b> <i>St. Lucy</i>	<b>8.00am Mass followed by Rosary</b> <b>9.00am Pastoral Care Meeting M/R</b> <b>9.30am Playgroup P/C</b> <b>11.30am Cantabile. Church.</b> <b>7.00pm Bridge P/C</b>
<b>Thursday</b> <b>14 December</b> <i>St. John of the Cross</i>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>10.00-12.30 Bridge Lessons M/R</b> <b>1.30pm Bridge. P/C</b>
<b>Friday</b> <b>15 December</b>	<b>9.00am Mass followed by Benediction</b> <b>11.30 Choir Practice</b> <b>1.00pm Bowlers P/C</b>
<b>Saturday</b> <b>16 December</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>11.30 Te Deum's Choir Practice</b> <b>4.45pm– 5.15pm Reconciliation</b> <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b> <b>17 December</b> <i>Third Sunday of Advent Year B</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>7.30pm Christmas Concert</b>

## Reflection on the Gospel

John immersed, baptised, his followers in water, symbolising the washing away of the sins of the *past*. But he could not empower people by drenching them in the dynamic life of God. John anticipates 'Someone' (not named!) who *does* have the power to inundate, baptise, people with the Holy Spirit. From the heading of St Mark's Gospel, we know that that 'Someone' is 'Jesus Christ, Son of God' who came to flood our lives with that Divine Power which can effect a completely new *future* for humanity. That is why St Mark took the term 'gospel' (good news) which was used on inscriptions announcing an Emperor's birth or victory, and used it to describe his inspired rendering of the mission of Jesus Christ, which was to inaugurate the 'Kingdom of God', overcoming the pretensions of all Emperors of any kind throughout history.

We should pause for a moment to thank God for the Good News of our being baptised with *water* in the 'Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'



*Reflection by Fr Michael Tate*

**CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS.** All children are invited to join in the celebration of the Christmas Vigil Mass in a special way by coming dressed as a shepherd or angel.

**CHRISTMAS ROSTER.** All qualified parishioners are invited to nominate themselves for the Liturgical Roles at one of our three Christmas Masses.

These is a blank roster on the Wall of the Narthex near the Wardens' table. Please write your name against any ministry vacancy that you can fill. Thank you

### 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](mailto: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

### INCENSE ON MIDNIGHT CHRITSTMAS MASS.

Please note that Father Jolly will be using Incense on Christmas Midnight Mass only.

**NO HOSPITALITY** on Sunday the 24th of December and Sunday the 31st of December after the 9.30am Mass.

**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

**CONGRATULATIONS.** To Mark Walker and Matthew Twyford, our Parishioners who are appointed by the Bishop to be members of the Blue Mountains Deanery Council.

## **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.

## **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.

## **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. 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:** Margaret Egan (Norbert Egan's wife), 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:** Gary Dennis, Patrice O'Neill, Fredericke Vinzenz, Doreen Egan, Maria Toirkens, Thomas Hitchens, Tamara Shervashidze, Paul Edelbrock, Elma O'Shea, Henry Brockway, Malcolm King, Coral Darr, Ann Lowe, Stephen Roy, Mark Broomhead, James Gapps, Marjorie Doyle and Margaret Gibson.

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to love,  
and then to  
part is the..."*



*...saddest  
journey of  
the human  
heart"*

**LEURA MEMORIAL  
GARDENS FUNERALS**

## ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

### 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.

***CHURCH CLEANING:*** Heather Lee, Church Care Coordinator would like to thank all volunteers of the Church Care Ministry for their hard work throughout the year. Best wishes to all for a very happy & holy Christmas.



**THE WILCANNIA-FORBES DIOCESE.** The CentaCare Community expresses its gratitude to St. Finbar's Parish for the donation of baby items which support families in the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes. Thanks to Vince & Carmel Dobson for delivering the items to them.

### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT.

All welcome to Glenbrook Park Carols By Candlelight on Friday 15th of December to commence at 8pm.

### 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.



### YEAR OF YOUTH

This weekend launches the Year of Youth for the Australian Catholic Church. A time to refocus our faith communities on walking with young people in their midst and for young people to answer Pope Francis' call to 'open new horizons for spreading joy'. The Year of Youth invites the church into dialogue about the importance and life-giving presence of young people in the Church and society. It calls for dialogue and active engagement that reconnects and renews this generation of young people in the life of the Church ten years on since World Youth Day in Sydney. Please pray for the 19,000 young people from across Australia and the 2,500 from the Diocese of Parramatta sharing their faith at Olympic Park these last few days for the triennial Australian Catholic Youth Festival. For more information contact James Camden at Catholic Youth Parramatta (02) 8838 3428.

### ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse will shortly release its final findings on public hearings, and its recommendations, related to the Catholic Church in Australia. The Diocese of Parramatta once again offers its unreserved and deepest apologies to those many people who have suffered because of the child sexual abuse that has occurred in the context of Church ministry. In particular, the Diocese of Parramatta apologises to survivors of abuse and their families for the hurt and suffering this abuse has caused throughout their lives. During the Royal Commission, the Diocese of Parramatta has strived to engage in their processes with openness, transparency and a commitment to learning about our history so that our child protection policies and procedures are strengthened and there is restored confidence in Church ministry. The Diocese of Parramatta is committed to continuously reviewing and improving its child protection policies and procedures. For more information please visit [www.safeguarding.org.au](http://www.safeguarding.org.au). For more information please refer to the Royal Commission website: [www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au](http://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au) For anyone needing information and support please contact the Diocese of Parramatta information line on (02) 8838 3470. Concerns or allegations about any criminal offence should be reported to NSW Police on 131 444.

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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 16 & 17 DECEMBER 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	Maire Griffin	Maura Williams	Peter or Trish Hurley
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Eileen Jones	Geraldine Lohan	Kylie Lane
Intercession	Reg Moore	John De Mattia	Patricia Munane
IT Operator	Henry Hanko	Ralph Maples	Amie Farrell
Music	Cantabile		Ruth's Group
Presentation of the Gifts	Margaret Moore & Jan de Bie	Rivas Family	Kathleen Schneiders & Family
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 Annis Nilsson Irene Aligno Carmel Higgins Volunteer Please Volunteer Please Volunteer Please
Children's Liturgy	Pia		
Cashier	Geoff Shalala & Erika McNay		
Hospitality	Trish & Peter Hurley, Maggie Trevena, Irene & Bert Adamson		
Church Care	Robyn Flynn, Jan de Bie, Kim Instance & Jessica Doherty		
Piety Stall at 9.30am Mass	Lee Jackson & Louise Heber		



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