



The Barbra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR C

8TH & 9TH DECEMBER 2018

Baruch 5:1-9; Ps 125; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

<p>Sunday 9th December <i>2nd Sunday of Advent - Year C</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 11.00am Baptism 1.00pm Bridge</p>	<p><i>Reflection on the Gospel</i></p>	
<p>Monday 10th December</p>	<p>9.00am Mass 10.00am School Christmas Concert 10.30am Pastoral Care Meeting M/R 2.00pm School Assembly P/C 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R</p>	<div data-bbox="963 398 1417 591" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Do we have to be like John the Baptist, eccentrically dressed and scavenging for food, to prepare the way of the Lord? No. You and I are called to be a John or Joan the Baptist, preparing people's hearts in our own time and place. But we have to allow God to prepare <i>our</i> hearts for this role. John the Baptist challenges us to 'Repent', i.e. to turn around our own lives seeking God's forgiveness. John then challenges us to see the big picture which is that 'All who live shall see the salvation of God'. Pope Francis is the exemplary universal pastor inspiring us to become '<i>les mercifuls sans frontieres</i>'. And young people through social media are already saying 'We are one community of human beings on this fragile planet'. The challenge for most of us is more immediate and apparently of smaller scope. The challenge this Advent is to identify the one person whose heart you can help prepare to celebrate the coming of the Lord Jesus in three weeks' time. The best method is to let that person see your faith and joy centered on that little Jewish baby lying in a manger. Do that, and who knows what may happen because that little baby is in fact the Sovereign Lord of history and of the whole cosmos. With God's grace, you don't have to be as eccentric or bizarre as John the Baptist to play your part in changing the course of history! We could take a moment to pray that, repenting of our own sins where necessary, we may prepare the heart of at least one person so that the Lord Jesus may enter in this Christmas, helping him fulfil his mission that all who live shall see the salvation of God.</p> <p><i>Reflection by Fr Michael Tate</i></p>	
<p>Tuesday 11th December</p>	<p>9.00am Mass 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting (Pres)</p>	<p><u>SUNDAY BAPTISMS:</u></p> <p>The Parish joyfully announces the Baptisms of <i>Amayah Wilson, Brandon Cosgrove, Josephina Cavar and Abigail Hine</i> this Sunday, and warmly welcomes them into our Faith</p>	
<p>Wednesday 12th December</p>	<p>8.00am Mass followed by Rosary. 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge P/C 7.00pm Christmas Concert Rehearsal</p>	<p><u>CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:</u> Vigil Mass at 7.00pm. Readings for the Vigil Midnight Mass. Readings for the Night. Christmas Morning 8.30am. Readings for the Day.</p>	
<p>Thursday 13th December <i>St. Lucy</i></p>	<p>9.00am Mass 1.30pm Bridge P/C 7.30pm Blue Labyrinth Dancers P/C</p>		
<p>Friday 14th December <i>St. John of the Cross</i></p>	<p>9.00am Mass + Benediction 11.30am Cantabile Choir Practice 1.00pm Bowlers 7.00pm Christmas Concert Rehearsal</p>		
<p>Saturday 15th December</p>	<p>9.00am Mass 11.30am Te Deum Choir Practice 4.45pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>		
<p>Sunday 16th December <i>3rd Sunday of Advent - Year C</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 1.30pm Bridge 4.00pm Christmas Concert Rehearsal 7.30pm Music & Reading for Christmas (Concert in church)</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. Our Parish lies within the Traditional Country of the Darug people— The Aboriginal Custodians of the area .

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

SVDP CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2018

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. Please leave hampers in the church.

Christmas Gift Tree

The Christmas Gift tree has been put up 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 14 December 2018.

Volunteers

We will need helpers at 9.00am on Saturday 15 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.

Thank you, fellow parishioners, for your generosity in making this festive season special for families in need.

NEW ROSTERS FOR 2019. We are in urgent need of assistance for the ministries of Warden, Sacristan, Reader and Minister of Holy Communion for some 2019 Sunday Masses. If you would like to help, please contact the Parish Office on 4739 8928 or email secretary@stfinbars.org.au. Training will be provided. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS ROSTER

Parishioners are invited to nominate themselves for a Liturgical Role at one of our three Christmas Masses.

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

THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE: THE JOURNEY OF THE MAGI

Are you looking for a different way to start the 2019 new year? Maybe to meet some new people, get fit and conclude the Christmas season on a spiritual high? The Epiphany Pilgrimage is a not-for-profit, 7-day, 110 km Catholic pilgrimage through the Blue Mountains which coincides with the Feast of the Epiphany.

The pilgrimage begins at Emu Plains on 2 January 2019 and finishes at Bell on 8 January 2019.

For further information and to register see www.epiphanypilgrimage.org or for general information and current news see <https://www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage/>.

journey in faith . encounter the Christ-Child . live for Him .

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Ron Aussel, Sarah Hurley, Bev Palmer, Maureen Streater (Vince Dobson's Sister), Shirley Glover, Fr. Jose, William (Bill) Waters, Patricia Flynn, Fr. Eric Burton, Julie O'Carrigan, Marie Mahoney (Peter Hurley's Sister) and Joyce Adamson.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Elizabeth Ramsay, Juliana Khnouf, Sally Phoebus, Chris Paine, Mark Bates, Ryder Lopez, Lyn Downes, Reg Moore, Pam Clyne, Mary & Robert Keith, Josephine Teece, Ken Moore, Mary Ann Manalili, Ellen Moffitt, Terry Stevens, Jeff Dean, Grant Madden, Jacqui Visser, Elise Doyle, Joan Lohrey, Joanne Macrae, Carmel Quilty Malone, Colleen Nolan, Maddison Farrugia, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Little Majella and Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Theresa Hemsley, Cornelius Van Der-Loo, Mary Bohan, Felice Macri, 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 Schaefer & Mark Broomhead.

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LEURA MEMORIAL GARDENS FUNERALS

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

OUR NEW STAINED GLASS WINDOW We are sorry for the inconvenience within the church while the installation of our new stained glass window is happening. We hope to finish the installation by next weekend, 15th December. A big thank you to all who have made donations to support the completion of this project. Special thanks go to the late Fr Brian Larkey and his family.

ST FINBAR'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE – A MAJOR OUTREACH

Music and Readings for Christmas



The parish's annual *Music and Readings for Christmas*, one of St Finbar's major outreach celebrations, will take place this Sunday 16th December at 7:30pm. There will be a request for donations (\$15/\$35 Families). This year will see the first appearance at this service of the Penrith City Children's Choir, which will lead the congregation in a special version of "Away in a Manger". As always the Christmas Story will be read by members from Lower Mountains churches, with opening and closing prayers by Father Jolly. For more information ring 4758 6067.

SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION:

The Second Rite of Reconciliation will be held on Tuesday the 18th of December at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

2019 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 show the School Term Holidays.

SAVE THE DATE 10th FEBRUARY 2019 for a forum and "Have your say about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia" at 2pm at Mavis Wood Hall, Mid Mountains Community Centre, 7 New St Lawson. EVERYONE is welcome.

CHILDREN'S SPECIAL ROLE The parish Liturgy Committee invites all children to attend the 7pm Christmas Mass (Christmas Eve) and to come dressed up as an angel or a shepherd.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE You will notice the beautiful quilt on display in the Narthex. It has been hand made by one of our talented parishioners. It is the prize in our Christmas raffle to raise funds for improvements to our church. Tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5. Please be generous and buy lots of tickets! The raffle will be drawn in the Narthex after 9:30am Mass on Christmas morning.

BISHOP VINCENT'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL Thank you to all those parishioners who gave generously to the Bishop's appeal last weekend. There are still envelopes on the seats this weekend for use by those who were unable to contribute last weekend for whatever reason. There are also some parishioners who took the envelopes home and have returned them today. Please place any such envelopes in either collection this weekend.

HOSPITALITY ROSTERS All members of the Hospitality team are reminded to collect their new rosters from the church kitchen this weekend. The parish thanks you all sincerely for the work you do for this ministry, and wishes you God's blessings during the coming festive season.

ST FINBAR'S PRIMARY SCHOOL GLENBROOK St Finbar's Primary School Glenbrook provides a Catholic Education for children in Years Kinder to Year 6. We are enrolling now for 2019. All considering enrolment are invited to contact the school office on their new number **4724 3600**.

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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:

52 Levy Street, Glenbrook 2773
PO Box 123 Glenbrook NSW 2773

Parish Priest: Fr Jolly Chacko MS

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Admin:

Peter McMahon

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Phone: 0404 010 997

Web:

www.stfinbars.org.au

Parish School: Principal Mrs Donna McFadzean

Phone: 4724 3600

ROSTER FOR 15TH & 16TH DECEMBER 2018

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Marie Hurley	Rodney Moffitt	Dawn Willis
Senior Server	Peter McMahon	Carl Moll	Martin Rogers
Junior Server	Joshua Toutounji & Dominic Scanlan		Andy Rogers Ann & Alex Walker
Warden	Lorraine Brown	Rodney Moffitt	Frank Fitzpatrick
Welcomer	Paul Etherington		Peter & Trish Hurley
1 st Reading	Maire Griffin	Maura Williams	Peter Hurley
2 nd Reading	Gideon Goosen	Geraldine Lohan	Trish Hurley
Intercession	Margaret Moore	John De Mattia	Frank Fitzpatrick
I.T Operator	Pat Watson	Robyn Flynn	Amie Farrell
Musician	Cantabile		Ruth's group
Presentation of the Gifts	Chris & Sandra O'Meara	Kay Whitty	Kathleen Schneiders & Family
Minister of Communion	Marie Hurley Pat Barrett Gwen Cullinan Bernie Fisher	Terry Keogh Helen Keogh Jemmy Brickwood Jean Di Nucci	Therese Luczak Annis Nilsson Irene Aligno Carmel Higgins
Children's Liturgy	Christyna		
Cashier	Bernadette Shalala & Erika McNay		
Hospitality	Trish & Peter Hurley, Maggie Trevena, Irene & Bert Aligno		
Church Care	Robyn Flynn, Jan de Bie & Jessica Doherty		
Piety Stall at 9.30am Mass	Lee Jackson & Louise Heber		
Garden Club	Kevin Debeck, Rob Lennon, Rodney Moffitt & Michael Lloyd		

Annemaree Baird
Solicitor

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