



# The BARRA

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
1st Sunday of Advent-Year A

30th November & 1st December 2019

Isaiah 2:1-5; Ps 121; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44. Eucharistic Prayer 2

<b>Sunday 1st December</b>  <i>1st Sunday of Advent Year A</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b>  <b>9.30am Mass</b>  10.30 am Young Families Advent Meeting P/C  <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b>  7.00pm "The Lounge" Senior Youth Group	<b>Reflection on the Gospel</b>	
<b>Monday 2nd December</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b>	<p>The first Sunday of Advent sees the commencement of the new liturgical year. This new liturgical cycle is referred to as Year A and features the gospel of Matthew. (Year B features the gospel of Mark and Year C, that we have just completed, features the gospel of Luke.) Advent comes from the Latin word <i>Adventus</i> which literally means 'coming'; it is also reflected in the Greek word <i>Parousia</i>, which is used to describe the second coming of Jesus. So Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation of the coming of Christ into the world that is celebrated in the Nativity at Christmas. The gospel passage chosen for today's reading richly expresses that anticipation and need for preparation. It may seem a little confusing that we begin our year-long exploration of the gospel of Matthew by taking a reading from chapter 24. However, the need for readiness and alertness that Jesus speaks about in relation to the coming of the Kingdom is equally suitable for a modern audience when preparing to celebrate once again the coming of Jesus into the world. Jesus is the best expression of the Kingdom that we have yet experienced and so rather than seeing the choice of this passage as a confusion, we should recognise the alignment that exists between the anticipation of the Kingdom and the anticipation of the Nativity. The two great feasts of Christianity – the Nativity and Easter – are each preceded by a period of preparation: Advent and Lent. The emphasis of these seasons is on the mental and spiritual preparation to fully enter into one of the great mysteries of faith. In the Nativity, we celebrate God become human; God present in the world in a physical way. Advent is a time to remember the many and varied ways that God continues to be present in the world.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Reflection by Greg Sunter</i></p>	
<b>Tuesday 3rd December</b>  <i>St. Francis Xavier</i>	<b>9.00am Mass</b>  6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.30pm Baptism Preparation Meeting M/R		
<b>Wednesday 4th December</b>	<b>8.00am Mass followed by Rosary</b> 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge P/C		
<b>Thursday 5th December</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> 1.30pm Bridge P/C 4.00pm Concert Meeting M/R 7.30pm International Dance Group P/C		
<b>Friday 6th December</b>	<b>9.00am Mass + Benediction</b> 10.30am First Friday Visits 1.00pm Bowlers P/C		
<b>Saturday 7th December</b>  <i>St. Ambrose</i>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> 10.30am Te Deum Choir practice <b>4.45pm Confessions</b> <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>	<p><b><u>CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:</u></b>          2nd Rite of Reconciliation will be held on <i>Wednesday the 18th of December at 7.30pm</i>          Vigil Mass <i>Tuesday the 24th of December at 7.00pm.</i> (Readings for Vigil).          Midnight Mass. (Readings for the Night).          Christmas Day Mass 8.30am (Readings of the Day).</p>	
<b>Sunday 8th December</b>  <i>2nd Sunday of Advent Year A</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b>  10.30am Young Families Advent Meeting M/R <b>11.00am Baptism</b> 11.30am Bridge Club Christmas Party P/C		

*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 our area.*

# ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

## NEW ROSTERS FOR 2020.

We are in urgent need for Wardens, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at the 7.30am Mass and a Senior Server for the 9.30am Mass on the 1st Sunday of the Month. If you can help, please contact the Parish Office on 47398928 or email [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au). Thank you for all your help and support.

THE CHURCH CARE GROUPS REQUEST EXTRA VOLUNTEERS FROM THE CHURCH COMMUNITY TO ASSIST WITH THE LAST CLEAN PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS DAY. MEETING AT THE CHURCH ON MONDAY, 23RD DECEMBER, ABOUT 11AM. IF YOU CAN SPARE AN HOUR TO HELP, PLEASE CONTACT HEATHER LEE 0403 779922.

**2020 Religious calendars are now available at the wardens' table. \$6 Franciscan and \$9 Columban.**

## CAROLS IN THE CHURCH AT SPRINGWOOD

A warm invitation is extended to all parishioners to attend an evening of Carolling to be held at **St Thomas Aquinas Church, 168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019**. A light supper will be served at the conclusion of the evening.

## JESUS IS COMING...AND SO ARE THE PILGRIMS!

The Epiphany pilgrims will soon be coming our way as they journey in the spiritual footsteps of the Magi. Be part of the journey and festivities by:

- Journeying with them for a day or more of walking along the route (visit [www.epiphanypilgrimage.org](http://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org) for track information and to register)
- Joining them for one or more evenings at the parishes of the Deanery for prayer, catechesis, Adoration and a festive dinner!
- Welcoming them in a particular way when they visit our parish from 2 – 3 January
- Joining them for Mass at the Chapel of the Magi in Bell on 8 January

To help out with the celebrations at St Finbar's, contact Matt and Lucie Twyford on 0402669153

**PIETY STALL.** Come and check the Piety Stall for great Christmas gifts and Cards. We have new Christmas Cards Packs of 8 for \$4 each.

*Carols in the Glenbrook Park to be held on Friday 13th December, commencing at 7.45pm. Bring your own picnic rugs and chairs. Music by Blue Mountains Concert Band. In the event of rain, carols will be held in St Andrew's adjacent to the park. This is a Glenbrook - Blaxland Interchurch event and all are welcome to attend.*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Joyce Slyney, Richard Formosa, Liam O'Sullivan (Son of Mary & Mick), George Frampton, John Parker (husband of Gwen), Tony Hickey, Brian Martland, Kathleen O'Connor, Victor Baker, Rita O'Malley, Stanley Harris and Ian McNay.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Robert Carey (Ann Keating's brother), Ken Moore, Ryder Lopez, Rev. Max Barrett (CSSR) (Jim Barrett's Brother), Joan Paine, Mark Bates, Lyn Downes, Reg Moore, Pam Clyne, Mary & Robert Keith, Ellen Moffitt, Terry Stevens, Jacqui Visser, Elise & Hilary Doyle, Joan Lohrey, Joanne Macrae, Maddison Farrugia, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Sophie Hollies, Colleen Nolan, Michelle Anthony and Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson).

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Harold Mitchell, David Miles, Frank Kroehnert, Lawrence Dunne, 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, Frank Culliver and Terence Hunt.

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# ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS



## CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH MUSIC AND SACRED READINGS

### 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 22nd December at 7.30pm. Massed Choir, Readings, Harp, 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. Enquiries 4754 1780.

## BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR 2019

Help vulnerable people in crisis turn their lives around, recover and thrive. Your compassionate gifts and prayers will help CatholicCare to connect people with support and services to build strong foundations for self-sufficiency, fulfilling family relationships and brighter futures. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal which will take place over this weekend. Donations of \$2 or more to this appeal are tax deductible. As usual, special envelopes will be placed on the seats for you to use for either cash or cheque donations, or for donating via your credit card. Please come prepared on this weekend. Thank you for your generosity.

**ALPHA TRAINING.** Following on from the demand for the Alpha in the Catholic Context training weekend, there will be a one-day Alpha training workshop on Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> February from 9.30am – 4.30pm.

The training will be held at the Institute for Mission, Blacktown, Sunday 9th February 9.30am – 4.30pm. This Training Workshop will look at where Alpha fits in the faith formation process in a Parish and how Alpha can become an integral part of a pastoral plan to evangelise and grow missionary disciples.

Please see the flyer on the noticeboard. To register, and for more information, please contact Lisa in the Pastoral Planning Office on 8838 3497 or [lisa.bright@parracatholic.org](mailto:lisa.bright@parracatholic.org)

## SVDP CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2019

### 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 during the week commencing 25 November 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 13 December 2019.**

### Volunteers

We will need helpers at 9.00am on Saturday 14 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 or send a SMS message to 0413 549 518.

### Poor Box Donations

All donations to the Poor Box till the end of December will count towards our Christmas Appeal. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated and will support our work over the Christmas period and into 2020. If you want to make a larger donation and require a receipt for taxation purposes please contact Vince Dobson personally or through the Parish Office.

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



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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:

52 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 Robyn Clarke

Phone: 4724 3600

## ROSTER FOR 7TH & 8TH DECEMBER 2019

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	John Verhoeven	Peter McMahon	Deb Lawrence
Senior Server	Anaru Veitch	Peter McMahon	Garry Pursehouse
Junior Server	Katia Apps	Joshua & Lucy Toutounji	Emily Dowling & Sophie McDonald
Warden	Ken Schneiders & Chris O'Meara	Volunteer Please	Patricia Murnane
Welcomer	Margaret Moore		Lukas & Kristina Rajnoch
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Volunteer Please	Ann Keating	Irene Aligno
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Joe Grange	Elizabeth Konza	Kristina Rajnoch
Intercession	Dawn Willis	John Isaksen	Yvonne Scanlan
I.T Operator	Eleanor Thompson	Terry Keogh	Jim McLoughlin
Musician	M. Phillips & M. Taylor		Naomi's Group
Presentation of the Gifts	Allan & Eileen Jones	David & Dianne Shatford	Dorothea Walsh & Margaret Christensen
Minister of Communion	Sybil Mason Thea Robertson Brian Robertson Margaret Richards	Kath Tierney Jim Tierney Gwen Cullinan Ann Keating	Avril Llewellyn Yvonne Scanlan Gerard Egan Juliana Khnouf
Children's Liturgy	Carolyn		
Cashier	Juliana Khnouf & Lorraine Brown		
Hospitality	Anne King, Lynne Atkinson, Daren & Liz Dukes		
Church Care	Catherine Marceau, Jane Lennon, Christyna Lloyd, Nicole Young & Beth Killeen		
Piety Stall at 9.30am Mass	Beth Culliver		
Garden Club	Lukas Rajnoch, Andrew Howard, Stuart Sheary & Daniel Lynch.		

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