



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
PENTECOST SUNDAY - Year A

30th & 31st May 2020

Acts 2:1-11; Ps 103; 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23.

Sunday 31st May <i>PENTECOST SUNDAY</i>	11.00am Baptism
Monday 1st June <i>The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church</i>	9.00am Mass
Tuesday 2nd June	9.00am Mass
Wednesday 3rd June <i>Charles Lwanga & Companions</i>	9.00am Mass
Thursday 4th June	9.00am Mass
Friday 5th June <i>St. Boniface</i>	9.00am Mass
Saturday 6th June	9.00am Mass 5.30pm Vigil Mass 10.30am Baptism
Sunday 7th June <i>The Most Holy Trinity</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass

FATHER JOLLY'S WEEKLY REFLECTION

"Evangelization is not possible without the action of the Holy Spirit, the most convincing dialectic has no power over the heart".
(Pope John Paul II).

Today is a great day of rejoicing for the church. The Holy Spirit has been poured out on us. The Holy Church was born today! The whole church rejoices for the gift of God's own Spirit who is her comforter and counsellor.

We all look forward to that day when there will be no more Covid-19. We all look forward that day when there will be no enemies, no blaming of each other and hatred of one another and the world will work together for the discovery of a new vaccine that will stop the spread of Covid-19. We all look forward to that day when all people will be able to hug each other, speak in harmony and their minds apprehend alike. We all look forward to that day when fear is gone and peace will rule the day because Christ will rule the hearts. We look forward to that day when all people with charity for all in their heart will join the Psalmist in singing in one voice: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity". That is our desire and wish.

Can this become a reality? Yes, it can: provided we have the Holy Spirit assisting us. The Spirit of God achieved such a community on the day of Pentecost.

The greatest fruit of redemption is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit into our hearts. Jesus had already promised at the Last Supper, "I will pray to the Father and He will give you another counsellor to be with you forever. The Spirit of Truth" (John 14:16).

For the Apostles, this event meant they were no longer the fear-stricken, ignorant men. Fear had given way to courage. They opened the closed doors. They stepped out with undying faith in the indwelling Spirit. They were so animated now that nothing could stop them. The outpouring of the Spirit had an effect on the community as a whole as well. They were united in mind and heart. The Holy Spirit draws people together into a community of believers. Through the power of the Spirit, language barriers crumbled. It is with this event that the Church was born. Those who heard the word, grew in their faith and discovered that they too had gifts given by the Spirit to share with the Community. The Spirit brought together not only the dispersed nations but also the confused disciples, so that they were immediately transformed into the Body of Christ. The same Spirit is with us and can do the same today for the Church and the world. But the Spirit of God needs you and me, the Spirit needs us, his Church to form that body. The Spirit needs us to cooperate with Him in the transformation of the world. We must allow the Spirit to blossom in us into works. We must first work to transform our own churches into a united, loving, forgiving and sharing community. Our Parish must become truly the Body of Christ, in which all our individual gifts are put at the service of the community, in the belief that "There are different gifts but the same Spirit, there are different ministries but the same Lord" (1Cor 12:4). Having set our own house in order, we then reach out beyond the confines of our Parish Community. The words of Jesus, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you" (John 20:21) were directed towards you and me. Therefore, as God's people, we are bound to function as divine agents in the world, to break down the walls of pride, division, hatred and prejudice.

SUNDAY BAPTISM:

The Parish joyfully announces the Baptism of Jasper Bede Johnstone this Sunday, and warmly welcomes him into our Faith Community.



ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

FATHER JOLLY'S WEEKLY REFLECTION

It is in this contest the words of Pope St. John Paul II become so real. "Evangelization is not possible without the action of the Holy Spirit". Thus, the gifts of the Spirit we have received in our Baptism and Confirmation may work in us to eliminate the obstacles of forming a loving community. The only obstacle that prevents us from forming a loving community is our lack of forgiveness. There is only one sin against the Holy Spirit that is the unwillingness to forgive and receive forgiveness. Today, we pray to the Holy Spirit to give us the gift of forgiveness, which help us overcome prejudices, divisions, hatred and ill will. May the Spirit lead us to come together in acceptance and in mutual help, in a community of faith, hope and love.

Come, Holy Spirit divine, and fill me with your gifts and fruits that I may be able to forgive those who have caused me pain or sorrow and may I obtain your true forgiveness. Amen

We would like to wish Dawn Castor a very Happy 90th Birthday you are in our prayers and thoughts Dawn.

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

This is the last call for the next lot of plaques to be created for installation on the parish Memorial Wall, part of our Prayer Walk. If you would like to commemorate the passing of your loved family member, please contact the parish office to complete the necessary paperwork. It is planned to send the next batch of plaques to the engraver on 10th June, so please make sure you complete all the details before this date.

READ THE DIGITAL EDITION OF THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY ONLINE - ISSUE 24 MAY 2020

As you know *The Catholic Weekly* has temporarily transitioned to a digital presence only due to the government's decision to close all Churches during the COVID-19 pandemic. While it has brought challenges, I am pleased to inform you that we have adapted extremely well and are continuing to produce the paper in a **digital form** making it available to everyone online at www.catholicweekly.com.au



What is a digital edition?

It is the current paper delivered on our website and which is formatted identically to the print edition. This means that anyone who visits our website can find the latest edition online by clicking the tile they can read through the paper flicking through page by page. There are also numerous other resources on our website and these are growing by the day. They include breaking news, features, opinion & analysis as well as how you can live can continue to live your faith-filled lives during this difficult times with [prayers](#), videos, [galleries](#) and [podcasts](#). We'd be grateful if you could share the digital edition as far as possible with your parish and Catholic school communities in the current situation.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Judy Lee (Robyn Clarke's Mother), Yvonne Holt (Judy Burrett's Sister), Betty Burge-Lopez (Julie-Ann McLoughlin's Grandmother), Elise Doyle (Jacqui Visser's Sister), Patrick Hanson, Patricia De Mattia, Ken Moore, Maureen Purcell, Merle Catlin (Margaret Richard's Mother), Jim Barrett, Anthony Campbell (Alison Howard's Brother).

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Angela Dengate (Jim Pope's daughter), Adam Carlyon (Theresa Luczak's Son in Law), Maria Macri, Eugene Daley (Margaret Rivas' Friend), Ryder Lopez, Rev. Max Barrett (CSSR) (Jim Barrett's Brother), Joan Paine, Mark Bates, Lyn Downes, Reg Moore, Pam Clyne, Ellen Moffitt, Terry Stevens, Jacqui Visser, 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:

Florence McSorley, James Tighe, Norma Bennett, James Schultz, Thomas Oxley, Rosemary McCaffery, Rose Torrance, Maria Dinale, Matilda Lutze, Susan Gibson, Maurice Whitford, May Brophy and Ian McNay.

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Dear Parishioners,

Starting 1st of June the NSW Government will allow churches to have up to 50 people attending Masses excluding the Priest, Senior Server, Sacristan and Readers. Parishioners are asked to keep safe distance and good hygiene. Weekend Masses will re commence 6th/7th June.

A Mass attendance booking system will start next week to keep track of the number of people attending. So if you like to attend any of the weekend Masses, please ring or email **Juliana on 47398928** or secretary@stfinbars.org.au to book your spot before Thursday of the week, until further notice.

Since there will be only 50 people allowed at each Mass we encourage those who are unable to be included in the list of the Sunday Masses to participate on weekday Masses.

We will be in need of people volunteering to sanitise the church pews thoroughly after every Mass, if you could help us please let Juliana in the office know.

Thank you all for all your help and support. Looking forward to seeing you all back in the church community. Please stay safe and take care.

Father Jolly Chacko MS

Reflection on the Gospel

The feast of Pentecost celebrates the power of the Holy Spirit coming upon the disciples and energising them to set about their mission of continuing the ministry of Jesus. The gospel reading is one of the post-resurrection appearances by Jesus when he breathed the Holy Spirit upon the disciples. The actual events of that first Pentecost are recorded in the book of Acts and are recalled in this week's first reading. The use of this post-resurrection gospel account is a reminder that Jesus had already imbued the disciples with the Spirit but, as so often throughout his ministry, they were a bit slow to catch on to the significance of what he had done. It seems that they needed a more tangible experience to jolt them into action and Acts records the very physical experience of the Spirit entering their midst as a roaring wind before settling upon them as tongues of flame. Jesus had breathed the Spirit upon them but it took the roaring wind to make a real impression on the disciples. There are frequent references in the gospels to Jesus being 'filled with the Spirit'. It is this Spirit with which he was filled that he breathed upon his disciples; it is that same Spirit that we receive sacramentally in Confirmation.

For the weeks following the death of Jesus the disciples had lived in fear and confusion, not fully understanding what had happened and not really knowing what to do. When they realised that the Spirit Jesus had breathed upon them was really present and urging them to action they finally had the courage to begin the mission that Jesus had entrusted to them: to spread the Good News of Jesus and continue to realise his message in the world.

Reflection by Greg Sunter

Alpha Prayer Ministry

*Alpha without prayer is like a gift saying
"batteries not included."*

Prayer is the power source that drives Alpha.

You are invited to join a prayer ministry to pray for the team and participants of Alpha Online which begins on Monday, 1st June.

Alpha is a course which invites participants to explore the Christian faith in a friendly and comfortable environment.

Alpha Prayer Ministers are asked to pray daily on their own or as part of a weekly online prayer group and pray for the Alpha team and their participants.

To be part of the Prayer Team or to find out more information, visit <https://www.parracatholic.org/alphaonline/> or call Lisa on 0448 652 720.

Alpha Online is being hosted by the Pastoral Planning Office of the Diocese of Parramatta.



ALPHA ONLINE
PRAYER MINISTRY
Be part of the Prayer Team praying for Alpha Participants
Visit www.parracatholic.org/alphaonline/ to express your interest in prayer ministry

Diocese of Parramatta



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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 6TH & 7TH JUNE 2020

(N.B. Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Communion and gifts rosters not yet in operation)

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Marie Hurley	Carl Moll	Gerard Egan
Senior Server	Peter McMahon	Carl Moll	Joseph Sukkar
Junior Server	Alex & Johnny McLoughlin		Grace Incorvil & Abigail Stanford
Warden	Vince Dobson & Allan Jones	Volunteer Please	Steve Newton
IT Operators	Yvonne Etherington	Elizabeth Konza	Sean Farrell
1 st Reading	Philomena Watkins	Terry Keogh	Jesse Mowbray
2 nd Reading	Katy Ferris	Andrew Teece	Briony Mowbray
Intercession	Ken Schneiders	Annie Teece	Martin Rogers
Church Care	Catherine Marceau, Jane Lennon, Christyna Lloyd, Nicole Young & Beth Killeen.		
Garden Club	Tony Doyle, Neil Evans & Helen Keogh		

Message from the Vicar for Communications

It is with regret I inform you that the June edition of our quarterly print magazine, *Catholic Outlook*, has been suspended due to COVID-19.

You are still able to read and access the digital version of *Catholic Outlook* via catholicoutlook.org and <https://www.catholicoutlook.org/subscribe/>.

Once Government restrictions have been fully lifted, the print production of *Catholic Outlook* will resume, with the next edition scheduled for September 2020.

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