





# The Barra

**Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook**  
**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A**  
**24th & 25th October 2020**

Exodus 22:20-26; Ps 17; 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10; Matthew 22:34-40

<b>Sunday</b> <b>25th October</b> <i>30th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>11.00am Baptisms</b>	<p><i>St. Finbar's Parish Community would like to welcome Father Joe who is going to be celebrating Saturday Vigil Mass and Father Jobi Payyappilly who is going to be celebrating Sunday morning Masses.</i></p> <p><b><u>Gospel Reflection</u></b></p> <p>Like last week's Gospel, we again have an example of the Pharisees seeking to 'catch Jesus out' in his interpretation of scripture. The Pharisees were regarded as the great interpreters of the Torah – the Law. To them, ALL the commandments were vitally important, not just the Ten Commandments given to Moses with which we are perhaps most familiar, but the 613 <i>mitzvot</i> (commandments) contained within the Torah – the first five books of the Bible. These 613 <i>mitzvot</i> governed all aspects of Jewish life. For the Pharisees to ask Jesus about the 'greatest' commandment was a blatant challenge to him. Perhaps they expected Jesus to name one commandment and then they could challenge him with a whole series of 'What about ...?' questions. Jesus' answer to the Pharisees highlights their preoccupation with the particulars of the Law contained within scripture. In their over-emphasis on the details of religious observance, they have forgotten about the most basic element of faith: to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind. Jesus reminds them that being faithful to God isn't about following precise rules but rather it is simply about loving God. With this one sentence, Jesus undermines the power position of the Pharisees. If the Law is as simple as 'Love God', what need is there of Pharisees to interpret the details of the Law? Having pulled the rug out from under them, Jesus follows up with his reminder that the second most important commandment is to love your neighbour as yourself. This is a call to compassion and justice that Jesus practised freely but was sadly lacking in the religious authorities of his time.</p> <p><i>Reflection by Greg Sunter</i></p>
<b>Monday</b> <b>26th October</b>	<b>No morning Mass</b> <b>5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>27th October</b>	<b>No morning Mass</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>28th October</b> <i>Sts Simon &amp; Jude</i>	<b>No morning Mass</b> <b>9.30am Playgroup P/C</b>	
<b>Thursday</b> <b>29th October</b>	<b>No morning Mass</b> <b>7.30pm Blue Mountains Folk Dance P/C</b>	
<b>Friday</b> <b>30th October</b>	<b>No morning Mass</b> <b>1.00pm Bowlers P/C</b>	
<b>Saturday</b> <b>31st October</b>	<b>No morning Mass</b> <b>11.30am Te Deum Choir Practice</b> <b>4.45pm Confession</b> <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>	
<b>Sunday</b> <b>1st November</b> <b>ALL SAINTS</b>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>10.30am St. Finbar's Netball Club P/C</b>	<p><b><u>SUNDAY BAPTISMS:</u></b></p> <p>The Parish joyfully announces the Baptism of Banjo William Bright and Max Tadhg Dillon who are going to be Baptised this Sunday and warmly welcomes them into our Faith Community.</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 our area.*

## OUR NEW PARISH PRIEST.

We warmly welcome **Father Joseph Lam** as our new Parish Priest who will commence with us at the Vigil Mass on Saturday 14th November. We pray that the Holy Spirit will strengthen and guide him in his new role.

**Father Joseph Lam** tells us he was born in Saigon, Vietnam. "After the ending of the US-Vietnam war, my family migrated to Germany. Having completed my schooling years in Bavaria (Germany), I first studied economics and philosophy and later theology in the US, Italy, Belgium and Germany. Having completed my doctorates in economics and theology, I was ordained a priest in Rome where I have served as professor, director of finance and secretary general. In Australia, I taught theology at the Broken Bay Institute, the Australian Catholic University, and the Catholic Institute of Sydney. I have written and edited seven books in German, French, Italian and English. I also regularly contribute articles to a number of international journals and lexica in theology, philosophy and patristics. Currently, I am a research member of an international research project in Patristics at the University of Wurzburg (Germany). Prior to my appointment to Glenbrook, I have served as academic and priest in Germany, Italy, Belgium and Kenya". Fr Joseph currently serves in the Greystanes parish.



## ALL SOULS MASS:

This year will be celebrated on Monday the 2nd of November, 2020 at 7pm. The celebration of the Eucharist will be offered for all the faithful departed with special remembrance of those whose funeral took place at St. Finbar's during the past year. Also invited to participate in the liturgy are parishioners who have lost a close relative during the past year and whose funeral was conducted outside the Parish. A candle ceremony will be part of the celebration so if you would like your loved one remembered by lighting a candle (which your family member will place on the sanctuary during the Mass), please contact the Parish Office on 47398928 before the 28th of October. A small framed photo of your loved one could also be placed on the sanctuary before the commencement of Mass.

## WORKING WITH CHILDREN:

It is a legal requirement that all parishioners who have any contact with children in their parish duties are required to complete a Working With Children Check, and to have that check formally registered with the Diocese. This especially includes Priests, Parish Staff, Sacristans, Senior Servers, Musicians, SRE teachers, Youth Group Leaders, Play Group Leaders, Sacramental Co-ordinators and possibly others. If you do not have such a check, or you are unsure about it, please contact the parish office urgently. Those who already have this check will be aware that it has to be renewed every five years, and some parishioners will be getting a reminder that their check is soon due for renewal.

*Noreen Taylor and her family would like to thank St. Finbar's Parish Community for their warm messages, love and support during the loss of her son Michael.*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Chiqui Trujillo (Carl Moll's brother in law), Tricia McQuade (Jan Smith's cousin), Jeanette Rogers (Martin Rogers' mother), Agnes (Pauline) Auckett, Michael Taylor, Dunata Ryan, Rita Cloran and Maureen Hobbs.

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

Margaret Christensen, Angela Dengate (Jim Pope's daughter), Adam Carlyon (Theresa Luczak's Son in Law), 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:

Baby Peter Shatford, Lorna O'Neill, Edna Helm, Alice McGregor, Rubena Appleton, Michael Drinkwater, Anne Bell, Ottilia Gyucha, John Guinney, Ann Waker, Rocco Galderisi, Archibald Johnson, Charles Breese, Allan McMillan, Irene Baker, David Hancock, Amanda Oxford, Simon Culliver and Anna Vella.

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# DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

## Liturgy Formation Workshops

Unfortunately, due to a lack of numbers we have decided to cancel the Mountains Deanery Liturgical Ministry Formation Course. Please also be advised that the Liturgical Ministry Formation Course will be repeated again next year at the beginning of the year. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.

## World Mission Month

It's World Mission Month – the one time in the year when the entire global Church comes together to support mission. [The Catholic Mission Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/catholicmission/) page offers daily inspiration, stories and reflection for everyone all year round. Please like this page to ensure that you don't miss out on this wonderful channel and all it has to offer: <https://www.facebook.com/catholicmission/>

To see mission in action today, take a look at this wonderful reflection on gentle leadership from the compassionate Jesuit Bishop Enrique Figaredo Alvargonzalez. Bishop 'Kike' is the driving force behind Catholic Mission's 2020 Cambodia Project appeal. His mission is simple: that everyone has the opportunity to live life to the full, to have hope, joy and happiness. <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=247534566329493>

## ACBC Social Justice Statement 2020-21

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. In the Social Justice Statement 2020-21, *To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today*, the Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. Download the Statement at [http://bit.ly/SocialJustice\\_2020](http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020)

## Religious Education

Updated version of the Draft New Curriculum for Religious Education is now available on the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta [website](#). When it is launched in late 2021 the Draft New Curriculum will replace 'Sharing Our Story', the current curriculum that has been in place for more than 20 years. For several years now, our Catholic community has been working together to update the way we share our faith with children and young people. This is a work in progress and will take time. The Draft New Curriculum remains faithful to Sacred Scripture and Tradition while ensuring that the way that the learning and teaching happens is kept up-to-date. We've been surveying our schools about their experiences of trialling aspects of the Draft New Curriculum. As you would expect, we're continuing to make changes based on feedback from clergy, parents, teachers and students. As a result, you'll notice that this document now includes references to the relevant sections of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and a new 'insights' section for teachers to use as a resource and guide. A guide to *Understanding the Draft New Curriculum for Religious Education in the Diocese of Parramatta* has also been provided on the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta [website](#) to help community members learn more.

We know that it is important to keep our Catholic community updated about this approach that is all about sharing our Catholic faith with the next generation. If you would like to share your thoughts, please contact [feedback@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:feedback@parra.catholic.edu.au).

**IFM Saturday Session:** Please join with others as we create community online to share and grow faith, every Saturday from 11am with Saturday Sessions. Listen to the pre-recorded presentation about a topic of faith before Saturday 11am and then join an online group discussion via Zoom from 11am. Register in advance for this meeting to receive the links for the presentation and meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/saturdaysessionsoct24>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about the presentation for this week and a link to join the meeting.

**SATURDAY SESSIONS**  
GROW & SHARE FAITH

With the presentation and the online discussion from 11am  
**COMPASSION AND KINSHIP**  
Fr Gerard Morson

**Fr Greg Boyle SJ. - Compassion and Kinship. 2012 (Video approx: 20 mins)**

Father Gregory Boyle, founder and executive director of Homeboy Industries, is an acknowledged expert on gangs, intervention and re-entry and today serves on the U.S. Attorney General's Defending Childhood Task Force. Homeboy Industries traces its roots to "Jobs for a Future" (JFF), created in 1988 by Boyle at Dolores Mission. To address the escalating problems of gang-involved youth, he and the community developed an elementary school, day care program and sought legitimate employment for young people. Please contact Lisa Bright on [lisa.bright@parracatholic.org](mailto:lisa.bright@parracatholic.org) if you cannot access the presentation to watch before Saturday 11am, or for further details or questions. If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please reply via email with a request to unsubscribe.

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## PARISH INFORMATION

**Parish Priest:**

E-mail:

Phone:

**Secretary:**

E-mail: [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au)

**Admin:**

E-mail: [glenbrook@parracatholic.org](mailto:glenbrook@parracatholic.org)

Phone: 0404 010 997

**Office Hours:** 9.30am - 3.00pm

Monday to Friday

(02) 4739 8928

**Parish Address:**

52 Levy Street, Glenbrook 2773

PO Box 123 Glenbrook NSW 2773

**Sacraments**

Confessions:

Sat 4.45-5.15pm

Baptisms:

By Appointment

Weddings:

By Appointment

**Web:**

[www.stfinbars.org.au](http://www.stfinbars.org.au)

**Parish School:** Principal Mrs Robyn Clarke

Phone: 4724 3600

## ROSTER FOR 31ST OCTOBER & 1ST NOVEMBER 2020

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Peter McMahon	Peter McMahon	Gerard Egan
Senior Server	Peter McMahon	Peter McMahon	Joseph Sukkar
Junior Server	Katia Apps		Grace Incorvil & Abigail Stanford
Warden	Vince Dobson & Allan Jones	Volunteer Please	Steve Newton
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Beth Culliver	John De Mattia	Pearse Cremin
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Eileen Jones	Volunteer Please	Amanda Moore
Intercession	Maureen Tulk	Margaret Dickson	Steve Newton
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Elizabeth Konza	Pat Watson
Cashiers	Robyn Flynn		
Church Care	Jeannine Ashbee, Deb Youngman, Leesa & Wayne Gillard		

**CHRISTMAS CARDS:**

Religious Christmas Cards are available for sale from the Warden's table or the Parish Office. A Pack of 8 cards is for \$5. If you like to buy some please contact the Parish Office on 47398928.



Aid to the  
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

**Red Wednesday.** On 25 November the Pontifical Foundation *Aid to the Church in Need* is asking Catholics around the world to commemorate Red Wednesday and pray in solidarity with those who are persecuted and suffer unjustly for their faith. Find out more: [www.redwednesday.org](http://www.redwednesday.org).

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