



# The Barra

**Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook**  
**1st Sunday of Advent - Year B**  
**28th & 29th November 2020**

Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8; Ps 79; Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37

|   |   | Fr Joe's Musings   |
|---|---|--|
| <b>Sunday</b><br><b>29th November</b><br><i>1st Sunday of Advent Year B</i> | <b>7.30am Mass</b><br><b>9.30am Mass</b>  | <p><b>Advent – A Time for Journeying...</b></p> <p>Who would have thought that my life's journey would lead me to Glenbrook? For sure, my parents did not plan it for me at the time of my birth. It was not on my cards either. Yet, I am here. What a wonderful coincidence! I am starting to make sense of my being in Glenbrook!</p> <p>If we stay open and let God work it out for us, then our journey may turn out to be a good path. Indeed, faith is a journey, although occasionally it could be bumpy and tiring. However, it exhausts us only if we do it in haste. Then, we will miss all the adventure and excitement that awaits us on the journey of life. A journey in a rush may lead to the destination, but we will arrive empty.</p> <p>During the time of Advent, we need to slow down the pace of our life. Rather than being <b>fooled</b> by our full daily schedule and worries, we need to be filled with the <b>fullness</b> of life. Instead of being taken over by the monotony of time, let us be artists of life. On the art of living and on the life of faith as a journey, Pope Francis wrote: "Journeying is an art because if we're always in a hurry, we get tired and don't arrive at our journey's goal. If we stop, we don't go forward and we also miss the goal. Journeying is precisely the art of looking toward the horizon, thinking where I want to go but also enduring the fatigue of the journey, which is sometimes difficult. ... There are dark days, even days when we fail, even days when we fall ... but always think of this: Don't be afraid of failures. Don't be afraid of falling. What matters in the art of journeying isn't not falling but not staying down. Get up right away and continue going forward. This is what's beautiful: This is working every day; this is journeying as humans. But also, it's bad walking alone: It's bad and boring. Walking in community, with friends, with those who love us, that helps us. It helps us to arrive precisely at that goal, that 'there where' we're supposed to arrive."</p> <p>Often in an infertility journey, one is faced with moments of despair, depression, frustration, shame, and pain. There is a Promise: Journey of Faith in the Waiting's sole purpose is to remind individuals who have been given a promise from God to continue to stand firm until it comes to pass. It is time to move beyond the pit of despair to recognizing the victory that you have as an overcomer through Jesus Christ. Be encouraged and inspired to continue in your journey as your faith is reignited.</p> <p>"Advent spurs us into prayer, repentance, and conversion that we may truly await our Lord with pure hearts and experience the inner joy which he has planned for us. As we look to the Christ Child we are reminded of salvation, its importance, and the need to work out our own salvation. As we set about such work this Advent, already strengthened by the grace of our Saviour, we are assured that "the end of the ages is already with us." (LG 48).</p> <p>Have a great weekend</p> <p>Fr. Joe</p> |
| <b>Monday</b><br><b>30th November</b><br><i>St. Andrew</i>                  | No Mass   |  |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br><b>1st December</b>                                       | 9.00am Mass   |  |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><b>2nd December</b>                                     | <b>9.00am Mass + Rosary</b><br><b>9.30am Playgroup P/C</b>  |  |
| <b>Thursday</b><br><b>3rd December</b><br><i>St. Francis Xavier</i>         | <b>9.00am Mass</b><br><b>7.30pm I/nat Folk Dance P/C</b>  |  |
| <b>Friday</b><br><b>4th December</b>  | <b>9.00 Mass</b><br><b>10am First Friday Visits</b><br><b>1.00pm Bowlers</b>  |  |
| <b>Saturday</b><br><b>5th December</b>                                      | <b>9.00am Mass</b><br><b>11.30am Te Deum Choir Practice</b><br><b>4.45pm Confession</b><br><b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>   |  |
| <b>Sunday</b><br><b>6th December</b><br><i>2nd Sunday of Advent Year B</i>  | <b>7.30am Mass</b><br><b>9.30am Mass</b><br><b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b><br><b>7.00pm "The Lounge" Senior Youth Group</b> |  |

*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

## Piety Stall Re-opens

Our parish piety stall has re-opened, and just in time for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Because of the need to make sure we comply with the COVID-19 restrictions, the Wardens' table still needs to be positioned at the entrance door to encourage all parishioners to sign in. Therefore the Piety Stall cannot be in its usual spot, and instead will be located in the working sacristy (behind the kitchen). Please come in and buy all your Christmas cards at very reasonable prices, and maybe also a Christmas gift or two. Noreen 4739 8882

## Epiphany Pilgrimage

There are great plans for the Epiphany pilgrimage to return to its normal January timeslot in 2021, assuming that we do not have a repeat of the horrendous bushfires of last summer. If plans are realised, the pilgrimage would begin at Our Lady of the Way parish in Emu Plains with morning Mass on 2nd January and proceed to our parish during the day. We would be host to the pilgrims that evening, and then they would head west after Mass the next morning. Please consider joining at least some part of the pilgrimage next year.

## Columbarium News

You will have noticed lots of bricklaying activity on our Columbarium site, and your Committee has been busily working behind the scenes ordering more supplies and sorting out the legally correct wording for our contract. We had applied for a government grant to help with the costs but our application has not been successful. Don't forget to indicate your interest in possibly purchasing a niche by completing the very simple form on the Wardens' table. This will give us some idea of the demand.

## Easing of COVID-19 Restrictions

As at November 23 indoor singing remains capped at 5 singers, and anyone in the audience who is singing will be required to wear a mask.

From December 1 capacity at funerals will increase to 300 people, subject to the 4 square metre per person rule.

## Christmas Concert

This year, because of COVID-19 restrictions, our annual Christmas concert has had to be abandoned. We hope to be back bigger and better than ever in 2021.

## Tap'n'Go Terminals

These will be introduced to the parish in the next couple of weeks to cater for the growing number of people who do not carry cash for the loose first and second collections. Please see the detailed information on the next page that explains how they will operate. Thank you for your ongoing support.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Mikaela Au, 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:

Karen Bishop, Laurie Rivas, Michael McMahon (Peter's brother), Christine McGillion, 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:

Glenna Van Den Steen, Shirley Noyes, Ronald Aussel, Harold Mitchell, David Miles, Frank Kroehnert, Lawrence Dunne, Thomas O'Malley, Julia Rudnicki, Ronald Lowe, Winifred Nolan, Paul Gibbeson, Carolyn Van Dyke and Phillip Moloney.

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## St Finbar's Tap 'n Go Terminals:



**Location:** On the pedestals just before the entry doors into the main part of the church.

*Do you find yourself not carrying cash so that you can't donate to our financial collection system?  
Are you using your credit or debit card instead of carrying cash?*

*We invite you to donate to the upkeep of our church and parish ministries by using our Tap 'n Go Terminals!*

***This does NOT replace the Second Collection Envelope System, nor the facility to make regular or occasional contributions via your credit card or debit card facility on the Parish's website. All these methods WILL CONTINUE! Tap 'n Go is just an extra way for people to contribute without the need for cash.***

**Its usage covers both the first and second collections.**

**The money will be allocated between the 2 collections in proportion to what is usually received.**



***Each tap of your card = \$5 donation  
Tap twice if you want to donate \$10, 3 times for \$15 and so on.....***

***The tapping function is:  
instantaneous – no waiting***

***SECURE***

***No receipt – it will be itemised on your bank statements***

***Available 7 days per week***

***You may use the machine upon your entry or after mass or whenever you may visit the church.***

This facility has been arranged through the Parramatta Diocese. The service provider is the Commonwealth Bank. The Wi-Fi service is via Optus.

*Thank you for any financial support through the 1st collection for our priest and through the 2nd collection to our parish for its facilities, upkeep, activities and continuing development. Without your financial support (small or large) our parish community cannot exist. If you require more information please contact the Parish Office.*

With good wishes from Fr. Joe and the St Finbar's Finance Committee

### **Bishop's Christmas Appeal.**

The Bishop's Christmas Appeal will be conducted in our parish on the weekend of 5th and 6th December, the Second Sunday of Advent. It is an important opportunity for us to actively reach out to the most vulnerable, and to show the compassionate face of Christ to all. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Please come prepared to give generously to this appeal

### **Bateman Battersby LAWYERS**

*We invite members of the  
parish to take advantage of  
our  
legal services specialising in :*

- |                   |                     |
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# PARISH INFORMATION

**Parish Priest:** Fr Joseph Lam OSA  
**E-mail:** joseph.lam@parracatholic.org  
**Phone:** 0490 148 387

**Secretary:** Juliana Khnouf  
**E-mail:** secretary@stfinbars.org.au

**Admin:** Peter McMahon  
**E-mail:** glenbrook@parracatholic.org  
**Phone:** 0404 010 997

**Office Hours:** 9.30am - 3.00pm  
 Tuesday to Friday  
**Office Phone:** (02) 4739 8928

**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

**Parish School:** Principal Mrs Robyn Clarke  
**Phone:** 4724 3600

## ROSTER FOR 5TH & 6TH DECEMBER 2020

| Liturgical Ministries   | 5.30pm   | 7.30 am          | 9.30 am                           |
|-------------------------|--|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sacristan               | Peter McMahon  | Carl Moll        | Gerard Egan                       |
| Senior Server           | Peter McMahon  | Carl Moll        | Joseph Sukkar                     |
| Junior Server           | Katia Apps   |                  | Grace Incorvil & Abigail Stanford |
| Warden                  | Vince Dobson & Allan Jones   | Volunteer Please | Steve Newton                      |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading | Philomena Watkins  | Michelle Wilson  | Jessica Doherty                   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading | Katy Ferris  | Volunteer Please | Steve Baird                       |
| Intercession            | Ken Schneiders   | Volunteer Please | Martin Rogers                     |
| IT Operators            | Robyn Flynn  | Elizabeth Konza  | Pat Watson                        |
| Cashiers                | Joe Grange   |                  |                                   |
| Church Care             | Catherine Marceau, Jane Lennon, Christyna Lloyd, Nicole Young & Beth Killeen |                  |                                   |
| Garden Club             | Tony Doyle, Neil Evans & Helen Keogh   |                  |                                   |

### "Science is organized knowledge. Wisdom is organized life." Immanuel Kant

Thanks to the Sisters of Mercy of Parramatta, our Parish has received a large donation of books. The books include biblical commentaries and encyclopaedias, theology, spirituality, sacraments, history, literature, psychology, and DIY self-help. They can be borrowed via the parish office. However, if you have books that you wish to add to the Parish library, just give the Parish office a call. This is one way to share not only faith, but also increase our knowledge and wisdom

