




The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

26th & 27th December 2020

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Ps 104; Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Luke 2:22-40

<p>Sunday 27th December <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass</p>	<p>Fr Joe's Musings</p>
<p>Monday 28th December <i>The Holy Innocents</i></p>	<p>Parish Office is closed</p>	<p>Dear Brothers and Sisters, Good morning!</p> <p>On this first Sunday after Christmas, the Liturgy invites us to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Indeed, every nativity scene shows us Jesus together with Our Lady and St Joseph in the grotto of Bethlehem. God wanted to be born into a human family, he wanted to have a mother and father like us.</p> 
<p>Tuesday 29th December</p>	<p>Parish Office is closed no morning Mass</p>	<p>And today the Gospel presents the Holy Family to us on the sorrowful road of exile, seeking refuge in Egypt. Joseph, Mary and Jesus experienced the tragic fate of refugees, which is marked by fear, uncertainty and unease (cf. Mt 2:13-15; 19-23). Unfortunately, in our own time, millions of families can identify with this sad reality. Almost every day the television and papers carry news of refugees fleeing from hunger, war and other grave dangers, in search of security and a dignified life for themselves and for their families.</p>
<p>Wednesday 30th December</p>	<p>Parish Office is closed no morning Mass</p>	<p>In distant lands, even when they find work, refugees and immigrants do not always find a true welcome, respect and appreciation for the values they bring. Their legitimate expectations collide with complex and difficult situations which at times seem insurmountable. Therefore, as we fix our gaze on the Holy Family of Nazareth as they were forced to become refugees, let us think of the tragedy of those migrants and refugees who are victims of rejection and exploitation, who are victims of human trafficking and of slave labour. But let us also think of the other “exiles”: I would call them “hidden exiles”, those exiles who can be found within their own families: the elderly for example who are sometimes treated as a burdensome presence. I often think that a good indicator for knowing how a family is doing is seeing how their children and elderly are treated.</p>
<p>Thursday 31st December</p>	<p>Parish Office is closed no morning Mass</p>	<p>Jesus wanted to belong to a family who experienced these hardships, so that no one would feel excluded from the loving closeness of God. The flight into Egypt caused by Herod’s threat shows us that God is present where man is in danger, where man is suffering, where he is fleeing, where he experiences rejection and abandonment; but God is also present where man dreams, where he hopes to return in freedom to his homeland and plans and chooses life for his family and dignity for himself and his loved ones.</p>
<p>Friday 1st January 2021 <i>Mary the Holy Mother of God</i></p>	<p>9.00am Mass</p>	
<p>Saturday 2nd January <i>Sts Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen</i></p>	<p>9.00am Mass 11.30am Te Deum Choir Practice 2.00pm The Epiphany Pilgrims arriving at St. Finbar’s 4.45pm Confession 5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>	
<p>Sunday 3rd January <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass</p>	
<p><i>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 .</i></p>		
<p><i>Please continue reading on the 3rd page</i></p>		

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

FOOD DRIVE FOR REFUGEES, ST FRANCIS HOUSE OF WELCOME, GRANVILLE

THANK YOU for the support!



Last Tuesday 15th December we delivered over 800 items of all sizes to Granville. We estimate the many bags of goods to be about \$4500 in value. This is a wonderful result. Many people will benefit. Thank you to all who were in a position to donate. Donors included parishioners of St Finbar's as well as many generous local residents. We live in a generous community. May Christmas bring everyone many blessings.

Re: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

NSW Health has revised the COVID-19 guidelines for places of worship effective from the 21st December 2020 until further notice.

- 1) Rule changes for venues in Greater Sydney: The maximum number of people at places of worship and religious services has been revised to one person per 4 square metres. This applies to all indoor settings including places of worship. Places of worship will be limited to a maximum capacity of 300 people.
- 2) Rule changes for venues across NSW: No more than 5 performers should sing indoors, with 1.5 metres between performers and 5 metres between performers and the audience. The audience should not participate in singing or chanting indoors. NSW Health strongly recommends people across NSW wear face masks indoors.
- 3) Masks during Communion: Parish priests, priests and ministers of the Communion are strongly encouraged to wear masks when distributing Communion.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Gusta and Harvey Paclat (Merrilee and John Verhoeven's aunt and uncle), Richard Mason, Beatrice Doughty (Erika McNay's sister), Margaret Garvan, Mikaela Au and Tricia McQuade (Jan Smith's cousin).

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Karen Single, Karen Bishop, 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:

Allen Klein, Baby Lucy Barrett, Alice Quinn, John Simon, Colin Sell, Arthur Adamson, Richard Cranbrook, Phil O'Danaghoe, Kathleen Thomas, Harriet Walsh, Patrick Walsh, Dorothy Palise and Robyn Kopp.

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Fr Joe's Musings—Continue from the first page

Today our gaze on the Holy Family lets us also be drawn into the simplicity of the life they led in Nazareth. It is an example that does our families great good, helping them increasingly to become communities of love and reconciliation, in which tenderness, mutual help, and mutual forgiveness is experienced. Let us remember the three key words for living in peace and joy in the family: “may I”, “thank you” and “sorry”. In our family, when we are not intrusive and ask “may I”, in our family when we are not selfish and learn to say “thank you”, and when in a family one realizes he has done something wrong and knows how to say “sorry”, in that family there is peace and joy. Let us remember these three words. Can we repeat them all together: may I, thank you, sorry. (Everyone: may I, thank you, sorry!) I would also like to encourage families to become aware of the importance they have in the Church and in society. The proclamation of the Gospel, in fact, first passes through the family to reach the various spheres of daily life.



Let us fervently call upon Mary Most Holy, the Mother of Jesus and our Mother, and St Joseph her spouse. Let us ask them to enlighten, comfort and guide every family in the world, so that they may fulfil with dignity and peace the mission which God has entrusted to them.

Pope Francis

Fr. Joseph Lam, PhD STD
St. Finbar Catholic Parish

THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE 2021

The Epiphany Pilgrimage is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. Beginning at Emu Plains on 2 January and finishing 7 days later at Bell, pilgrims walk through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland and spend time in prayer and fellowship reflecting on the journey of the Magi to seek, encounter and adore the Christ-child. Limited overnight registrations are available to ensure the event is Covid Safe. Day walkers are welcome. For more information and to register visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org. To follow the journey see <https://www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage/>.

JAMBEROO ABBEY RETREAT: HOSPITALITY: A VERSATILE CHARISM

You have been invited to meet the Friend No one can resist a Divine invitation That narrows down all our choices To just two:

We can come to God dressed for dancing,
or be carried on a stretcher to God's ward.

Hafiz

Welcome in this new year exploring, deepening and praying with the Benedictine charism of hospitality

With Sr Magdalen osb

Retreat begins: **16 Jan 2021** (Introductory Material will be available from 10 Jan 2021)

RETREAT PROGRAM FEE: AUD \$300. For more information, go to our website: www.jamberooabbey.org.au - click on Retreats – Hospitality: a versatile charism



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PARISH INFORMATION

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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
(Closed on Mondays)
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 2ND & 3RD JANUARY 2021

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 st Reading	Beth Culliver	John De Mattia	Pearse Cremin
2 nd Reading	Eileen Jones	Volunteer Please	Amanda Moore
Intercession	Maureen Tulk	Margaret Dickson	Steve Newton
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Elizabeth Konza	Pat Watson
Cashiers	Joe Grange		
Church Care	Julie Fehon, Janette Ankers & Lynda Favell		

Congratulations to the Parish HSC students this year for working extra hard due Covid-19 restriction and unsettling time to pass their HSC exams. The Parish is proud of you all.



Aid to the
 Church in Need
 ACN AUSTRALIA

Thank you to all the individuals, families and parishes who helped us support suffering and persecuted Catholic communities, particularly in this year of the coronavirus pandemic. We pray that the joy and peace of the Christmas season will refresh all our hearts and prepare us to live our faith into the New Year. www.aidtochurch.org.

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