



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B
16th & 17th January 2021

1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19; Ps 39; 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20; John 1:35-42

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

And they stayed with him...

Whether we like it or not, we interact with a sales clerk, meeting someone at a party or conference, bumping into a neighbour on the street, any situation that calls for chitchat. Small talks have many advantages. Often, a small talk precedes a big talk in the normal course of human affairs. Most people feel the need to get comfortable with one another before they jump into the deep end of serious conversation or ongoing friendship. Which means if you hate and avoid small talk, you are also, as a practical matter, cutting yourself off from lots of meaningful social interaction, which is a bummer. Also, research shows that more frequent small talk, even among those who identify as introverts, makes people happier. Also, despite recent advances in technology, small talk remains an unavoidable part of many basic life tasks.

A similar situation happens in the gospel of this Sunday. John and his disciples had a small talk about Jesus. Yet, it has led to a deeper understanding of Jesus because it has led to the invitation uttered by Jesus: "Come and you will see." Being invited to stay with Jesus, they shared life and communion with Jesus. Importantly, Jesus gives them his time and room and a space to grow with him and to achieve an authentic faith.

Yet, we are still reluctant to invite others to share faith in Jesus.

A recent research reveals that "almost half of millennials (47 percent) agree at least somewhat that it is wrong to share one's personal beliefs with someone of a different faith in hopes that they will one day share the same faith."

So, it is not easy to talk about faith. Yet, if we don't talk about Jesus, people won't be able to hear the good news. Hence, we are called to be evangelists. Evangelists encounter people in the messiness of their lives. Evangelization begins when we invest ourselves in others in all their brokenness, because our own brokenness has been taken up and healed by Christ. There is something different about such Christians. They have found joy in their suffering because they have put their faith in Jesus, who first suffered and died for us. The Christian does not escape suffering, but suffering is transformed and gives way to a deep and abiding peace because of the nearness of Jesus Christ. "It is impossible to persevere in a fervent evangelization unless we are convinced from personal experience that it is not the same thing to have known Jesus as not to have known him" (Evangelii Gaudium, no. 266). We cannot introduce others to Jesus if we do not know Him and if we do not live as disciples.

This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

John 15:12-13

To proclaim the Gospel to another, we must first open ourselves up to listening to another person's story and befriending that person in their own journey. Evangelization requires time, commitment, and the vulnerability of interpersonal relationships more than it requires investment in particular programs. We cannot evangelize those we do not love, and we cannot love those we do not take the time to invest in, whether or not they end up becoming Catholic disciples.

Fr. Joe

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam OSA

E-mail: joseph.lam@parracatholic.org

Phone: 0400 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

(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

Facebook:

Glenbrook Catholic
Church St Finbars

Parish School: Principal

Mrs Robyn Clarke

Phone:

4724 3600

PARISH JOBKEEPER

REDUCED

The Parish is now on the very minimum level of Jobkeeper assistance, and so our finances are suffering.

We ask that all parishioners please get their envelopes up to date.

You can do this either at Mass or by dropping them into the Parish Office.

Many God bless you all.

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

LENTEN BIBLICAL STUDIES ON THE PASSION, DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS IN THE GOSPEL OF MARK. AT ST. FINBAR'S IN GLENBROOK

Why Does God need to die?

Presenter: Fr. Joseph Lam, PhD STD

Cost: Gold coin donation

The Trial of Jesus
Tues 23rd February 2021, 7:30pm

The Death of Jesus
Tues 9th March 2021, 7.30pm

The Resurrection of Jesus
Tues 23rd March 2021, 7.30pm

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, places are limited.

For Registration please contact the Parish office on secretary@stfinbars.org.au or 47398928.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

The Church Care Ministry is looking for a Volunteer to join our newly formed group to wash the church floor approximately every three/four weeks on a regular basis.

Anyone interested please contact Heather Lee on 02 4739 4906/0407 779922.

NEW TV SCREENS & CRUCIFIX

St. Finbar's Parish Community would like to thank Jeannine Ashbee, Pat Watson & Father Joe for the new 3 large TV screens they bought for the church to replace the old and dated screens.

Also a special thanks to Tamar Elzeined and her family for donating the new Corpus to replace the broken one, and to Vince Dobson for all his help putting it back together.

May God bless you all and your families.

SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY THE 7TH OF FEBRUARY (SUBJECT TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS)

WELCOME BACK MINISTRY - MORNING TEA + SAUSAGE SIZZLE

The Parish is organising a special gathering for all the parishioners to thank them for all their help and support in their different ministries for the church on Sunday the 7th of February 2021 after the 9.30am Mass in the Parish Hall. More information will follow as we come closer to the date.

THE NEW ROSTERS FOR 2021.

These have already been sent this week.

Please note that we are still in need of a Warden and Readers for the **7.30am Mass**.

Please let the Parish Office know if you are interested.

Thank you for all your help and support. *Juliana Khnouf*

I wish to thank sincerely the community of St Finbar's for your comforting acts of kindness during the sad loss of my husband, Richard. Special thanks to Fr Joe, Juliana Khnouf, Patrick Watson & Marie Hurley in helping to make the "Celebration of his life" so memorable.
Jayne Mason.

2021 Religious calendars are still available for sale on the Wardens' table. They are for \$6 for Franciscan Calendars and \$10 for Columban Calendars.

We value cost and care as much as you do



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PARISH CALENDAR		ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS
Sunday 17th January <i>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass	<p><u>Thank you from the Epiphany Pilgrims!</u></p> <p>Many thanks to the parish of St Finbar's for welcoming, supporting and celebrating with the 2021 Epiphany Pilgrims! A particular thank you to Lucie and Matt Twyford for coordinating the pilgrimage efforts at Finnies as well as to Fr Joseph and the many parishioners who assisted with access to the church and hall, hospitality, trailer transport and other aspects of the pilgrimage – what a blessing! Thank you to those who joined the group for day walks, Adoration, Mass, prayer times and meals as well as to the many who prayed with and for the pilgrimage throughout the week. To see photos and for more information visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org. We hope you can join us for the celebrations again next year from January 2 - 8, 2022!</p>
Monday 18th January	No Morning Mass 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R	
Tuesday 19th January	9.00am Mass 7.30pm Parish Finance Committee Meeting M/R	
Wednesday 20th January	9.00am Mass & Rosary 7.30pm Columbarium Meeting M/R	<p><u>THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY</u> <u>ISSUE 17 JANUARY 2021</u></p>  <p>PULPIT POINTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eileen O'Connor Centenary • Lebanese priests to be beatified • Simcha Fisher: An American fairytale • Monica Doumit: Scandal of the missing 'Vatican billions' • Movie review: <i>Wonder Woman</i> • Philippa Martyr: Mass attendance 
Thursday 21st January <i>St. Agnes</i>	9.00am Mass	
Friday 22nd January	9.00am Mass 1.00pm Bowlers	
Saturday 23rd January	9.00am Mass 11.30am Te Deum Choir Practice 4.45pm Confession 5.30pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 24th January <i>3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass	
		 <p>Aid to the Church in Need ACN AUSTRALIA</p> <p>As we begin a new year please remember the suffering Church. Your donation helps keep the faith alive during these difficult times. Visit www.aidtochurch.org</p>

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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:

Thelma Johnstone, Guisppe Mardi, Angela McGregor, Kathleen McFadden, Bruce Oxford, Philip Mason, John Castor, Phillip Coburn, Patrick Egan and Lochlan Turnbull.

ROSTER FOR 23RD & 24TH JANUARY 2021

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Peter McMahon	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Peter McMahon	Stephen Brown
Junior Server	Ethan Cameron		Keira Vermaak & Nicola De La Mare
Warden	Huia Kingi	Volunteer Please	Gary Clune
1 st Reading	Eileen Jones	Leanne Brown	Avril Llewellyn
2 nd Reading	Philomena Watkins	Volunteer Please	Michelle Wilson
Intercession	Katy Ferris	Elizabeth Konza	Yvonne Scanlan
IT Operators	Eleanor Thompson	Volunteer Please	Patrick Watson
Cashiers	Robyn Flynn, Ann & Ray Keating		
Church Care	Robyn Flynn, Jan de Bie & Jessica Doherty		
Garden Club	Tony Doyle, Neil Evans & Helen Keogh		

ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK.

On February 11th 2021, we will celebrate the annual World Day of Prayer for the Sick. As you are aware, Pope St John Paul II initiated this special day of remembrance in 1992 and Popes Benedict and Francis have continued the tradition. The day has a dual focus on those who are sick and on those who care for them.

The theme for the 29th World Day of the Sick 2021 is the following - *"You have but one teacher and you are all brothers" (Mt 23:8) A trust-based relationship to guide the care for the sick.*

The COVID 19 pandemic of 2020 has highlighted for us how precarious our health can be and how much we rely on the virtues of solidarity and compassion to create the conditions that allow us to strive for the common good.

We saw how the whole community needed to come together to fight this virus. We also witness the heroism and dedication of staff in hospitals and aged care facilities to accompany and heal those who had contracted the virus. We are so proud of the contribution Catholic health and aged care services made to this common effort.

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