



# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B  
23rd & 24th January 2021

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Ps 24; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

## FR JOE'S MUSINGS

### 2021 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Jan. 18-25

Growing up in Germany, I was brought up in an ecumenical spirit. I remember vividly the many mutual visits between my then parish priest and the minister of the Lutheran church. Martin Luther was a member of my religious Order (the Augustinians). He entered [St. Augustine's Monastery](#) in [Erfurt](#) on 17 July 1505. So, ecumenism is very dear to me.

In his 1895 Brief *Providae Matris*, Pope Leo XIII recommended a Week of Prayer for the week preceding Pentecost. He wrote: "It is a matter of praying for a work comparable to the renewal of the First Pentecost, when all the faithful were gathered round the Mother of Jesus in the Upper Room, of one mind and unanimous in prayer".

The 2021 theme – Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit (John 15:5-9) – calls us to pray and to work for reconciliation and unity in the church, with our human family, and with all of creation. Drawing on the Gospel image of vine and branches, it invites us to nourish unity with God and with one another through contemplative silence, prayer, and common action. Grafted into Christ the vine as many diverse branches, may we bear rich fruit and create new ways of living, with respect for and communion with all of creation.

Our Parish has a proud ecumenical tradition. Some years back, we have signed a covenant between our Parish and the Uniting church in Glenbrook. The goal of the ecumenical covenant is to promote and to live the unity in Christ in their village or neighbourhood by praying for one another, being in regular contact with one another, worshipping from time to time (but on a regular base) together, working together for the wellbeing of the people in their area and striving for complete unity in the future. Within this ecumenical partnership, we also share our goods and facilities. We were very blessed to be able to welcome and to offer our beautiful church building to our sisters and brothers from the Uniting church on Christmas day. We hope that we can worship together and collaborate on various social and charitable projects in the near future.

But its goal is a communion which is not purely the result of human efforts, a work or institution created merely by us. Without spiritual communion, communion's entire structure would be nothing more than a soulless apparatus. Indeed, communion is primarily a gift. To decide when, where and how unity will be achieved is not in our hands but in God's; we must trust him.

As Vatican Council II noted, this movement can be understood only as an impetus and action of the Holy Spirit, who has reawakened Christians worldwide and in all ecclesial traditions, making them feel remorse over the scandal of their divisions and a longing for unity (cf. *Unitatis Redintegratio*, nn. 1, 4).

Ecumenism is first a spiritual ecumenism. It is the heart of ecumenism. It is understood as the ecumenism of prayer and conversion. Without prayer and conversion there is no ecumenism. But with prayer and conversion, according to the word of Jesus, a great deal — indeed everything — is possible.

Father Joe

## PARISH INFORMATION

### Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam OSA

E-mail: [joseph.lam@parracatholic.org](mailto:joseph.lam@parracatholic.org)  
Phone: 0490 148 387

### Secretary: Juliana Khnouf

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

### Admin: Peter McMahon

E-mail: [glenbrook@parracatholic.org](mailto: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](http://www.stfinbars.org.au)

**Facebook:** Glenbrook Catholic Church St Finbars

### Parish School: Principal

Mrs Robyn Clarke  
Phone: 4724 3600

## COLUMBARIUM

The Columbarium Committee met on Wednesday to progress many matters prior to making the niches available for sale.

Watch The Barra next week for the details.

*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](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au) or 47398928.

## **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 of 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 BOOK, CLERICALISM : STORIES FROM THE PEWS, BY GIDEON GOOSEN**

Is on sale at the Piety Stall. Cost \$20.

## **LENTEN GROUP.**

Lent is starting on Wednesday the 17th of February. A Lenten group will be running every Thursday afternoon at 2pm in the Parish Meeting Room starting on the 18th of February 2021, if you would like to join, there are still a few places available. Please ring Mila on 47391470 or the Parish Office on 47398928.

## **PARISH FINANCES**

The Parish Finance Committee met this week to review the parish financial situation. While the parish is still receiving the reduced Jobkeeper payments it is able to meet its financial obligations. However, from April this government payment will cease and the parish will have to raise enough income from its own resources to pay the bills. All parishioners can help by regularly using the Tap'n'Go terminals in the church and by keeping their envelopes up to date.

Any parishioner who would like to serve on the Parish Finance Committee is invited to contact Fr Joe and show him what talents they could bring to the Committee.

***Congratulations to Marie Hurley and Pat Barrett, two very strong seniors of our parish. This week The Blue Mountains Gazette page 33 features a photograph of Marie and Pat while exercising.***

***Go Marie and Pat.***

***Father Joe.***



***Jacqui Visser would like to extend her sincere thanks to the Pastoral Care team for the beautiful Christmas gift. May God bless them all.***


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


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## PARISH CALENDAR

## DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

<b>Sunday</b> <b>24th January</b> <i>3rd Sunday in Ordinary</i> <i>Time Year B</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b>
<b>Monday</b> <b>25th January</b> <i>The Conversion of St. Paul</i>	<b>No Morning Mass</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>26th January</b> <i>Australia Day</i>	<b>9.00am Australia Day Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>27th January</b>	<b>9.00am Mass &amp; Rosary</b>
<b>Thursday</b> <b>28th January</b> <i>St. Thomas Aquinas</i>	<b>9.00am Mass</b>
<b>Friday</b> <b>29th January</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>1.00pm Bowlers</b> <b>5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice</b> <b>7.30pm Adoration</b>
<b>Saturday</b> <b>30th January</b>	<b>9.00am 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>31st January</b> <i>4th Sunday in Ordinary</i> <i>Time Year B</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b>

### Positions Vacant:

Parish Secretary – St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish, Upper Blue Mountains and Sacred Heart Parish, Blackheath – **Applications close 12 February 2021.** More details at: [parracatholic.org/employment](http://parracatholic.org/employment)

### Office For Worship 2021 Liturgical Ministry Formation Course

The Office for Worship's Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will be held again in 2021 in early February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving in the Liturgical Ministries of Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar at your parish. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or [anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org](mailto:anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org).

### Annual Legal Red Mass: 4 February

The Annual Red Mass, which gives thanks for the work of those who serve the law, will be held on Thursday 4 February at St Patrick's Cathedral at 7pm, followed by a light supper. It is also an opportunity to reaffirm a commitment to justice and faith. For catering purposes, please confirm your attendance by emailing [events@stpatricks cathedral.com.au](mailto:events@stpatricks cathedral.com.au) or by phone to (02) 8839 8411 by Friday 29 January

### DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE

### Bateman Battersby LAWYERS

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

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### Intellect Finance

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[Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au](mailto:Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au)



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Michelle Anthony, Kathleen Griffin, Terry Wesley (Mike Rivas' Cousin), Richard Mason and Mikaela Au.

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

Karen Single, Karen Bishop, 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:**

Elsie Frontain (Jeannin Ashbee's Mother in Canada), Jacob Grunow, Margaret Lane, Andrew Patterson, John Brown, Pat Psaila, Rosanna O'Loughlin, Michael O'Connor, Dr. Michael McGirr, Jeremy Crawley and Paul Hammerton.

**ROSTER FOR 30TH & 31ST JANUARY 2021**

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Vince Dobson	Carl Moll	Stuart Sheary
Senior Server	Vince Dobson	Carl Moll	Martin Rogers
Junior Server	Volunteer Please		Volunteer Please
Warden	Ken Schneiders	Volunteer Please	Patricia Murnane
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Eileen Jones	Volunteer Please	Avril Llewellyn
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Philomena Watkins	John Killeen	Michelle Wilson
Intercession	Katy Ferris	Elizabeth Konza	Yvonne Scanlan
IT Operators	Eleanor Thompson	Terry Keogh	Joanne Stubbs
Cashiers	Joe Grange		
Church Care	Noreen Taylor, Ian Dickson, Heather & Steve Lee, Wendy Bohan & Amanda O'Leary		

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