

The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B
30th & 31st January 2021

Deuteronomy 15:15-20; Ps 94; I Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Dear Friends,

This week is the start of the new school year for thousands of teachers and students. On behalf of St Finbars, I would like to extend our well wishes to our teachers and students, especially those who commence their school career this year. When I was a student in Germany, I read these wise words from a German educator: "We do not learn for the school only; but we also learn for life."

As for the school, so I would like to welcome you all back to our parish. Last week was the sad anniversary of the outbreak of COVID 19 which has infected millions of people. So far, Australia has been faring quite well. Of course, we should not forget that there are people affected indirectly by this pandemic. Our parish life is slowly recovering after the imposition of much needed restrictions by authorities. Some of our parishioners are still nervous and are still undecided whether to attend the Masses and other social events of the parish. May I say that St Finbar's is pretty safe because we all take the health and safety of our parishioners very seriously. To mark a "new year" for our parish, we would like to invite you to a "welcoming back party" on Sunday 6 February after the 9.30am Mass with sausage sizzle and morning tea and some music. Of course, it depends on the easing of restrictions.

I am also pleased to announce that our Columbarium is ready for the inurement of the ashes. I would like to thank our members of the Columbarium committee for hardworking ethos and dedication over many years. There is little doubt that their love for God and for our parish is very visible in the way they have given themselves to this project. We are the only parish with a Columbarium in the Blue Mountains. The aim of our Columbarium is to enhance the pastoral care of parishioners beyond death since they will always be remembered during the daily parish Masses.

In Rom 8:38-39 we read: "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, **shall** be able to **separate us** from the love of **God**, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Some weeks ago, the diocese has encouraged us to explore points of collaboration between St Finbar's and Emu Plains. Fr. Michael, who is currently the temporary administrator of Emu Plains, and I have met to discuss this issue. At this point of time, we don't see many opportunities that would benefit both parishes. We also need to acknowledge that Emu Plains and Glenbrook are culturally two independent parishes which belong to different councils. Emu Plains has expressed this very clear to the diocesan authorities at their meetings (we have not been included in these discussions). We also need to wait to see who the diocese will appoint as new parish priest to Emu Plains.

A last word on our parish finances. We just would like to thank you for your generous support during COVID 19 and we hope that you continue to do so. After all, it is OUR parish and we are ALL together stewards of OUR parish. Additional to your generous contribution, the parish also receives a big financial boost in the form of Jobkeeper subsidy (for details, see the insert in the BARRA). This program will terminate by 1st April. We are unsure about its impact on our administrative staff etc. Have a good weekend.

Fr. Joe

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

(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

TIMEOUT TUESDAY

will resume 16th February 10am - 1pm.
St Finbar's Parish Centre.

May 2021 be Blessed with many
wonderful possibilities.

More details will be posted in the
narthex in the coming weeks.

SHARE THE FAITH!

Would you like to join our great team of
Scripture Teachers who provide half-
hour lessons once a week, for the
students in our local primary schools. It
is a very rewarding ministry.

If you would like to know more about
us, please call Beth on 0408317086.

*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

COLUMBARIUM NOW AVAILABLE FOR USE

The Columbarium Committee met recently to tidy up quite a lot of matters so that the Columbarium could be brought into use. That point has now arrived and parishioners who wish to purchase a niche for use either now or later may proceed to obtain a copy of the Niche Contract from the parish office and make the payment.

The niche price has been set at \$2250 for now, and this amount needs to be paid to the parish in full as the first step. This can be done electronically, by cheque or cash or any way that is easy for you.

The next step is to visit the parish office where Juliana will enter all the details onto the Parish Columbarium database, issue you with a receipt, get you to sign your contract and Fr Joe will countersign it.

If you wish to nominate a particular niche at this stage you may do so. There are five Columbarium Blocks, named after saints Finbar, Matthew, Mark Luke and John, and each Block has niches on the north (road) side and the south (church) side. There is a plan of all niches in the parish office. Your niche details will be entered into the database so it will be reserved for you.

If the niche is for later use, that is all you need to do.

If you would like to use the niche in the near future, you will also need to discuss with Fr Joe an appropriate time for the Inurnment Rite. You will also need to decide on the wording for your plaque.

The cost of the plaque will be invoiced to you at a later date.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN (WWC) CHECKS: As the parish ministries get back into action, it is timely to check that the parish complies with the Government and Diocesan rules for WWC checks.

Those with existing checks just need to keep their details current and a renewal notice will come to you.

For anyone who might be new to a parish ministry (or who is unsure about their WWC check), you need to make sure all is well. Any parishioner in the following ministries needs to have a current WWC check: Sacristan, Senior Server, Reader, Catechist, Children's Liturgy, Youth Group Leaders, Playgroup Leaders Sacramental Co-ordinators, Baptism Team, as well as the Parish Priest and Parish office staff.

Please direct any queries to Peter in the Parish office.

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.

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 in the next Barra.

**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

Sunday 31st January <i>4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Year B</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass
Monday 1st February	<i>No Morning Mass</i> 5.00pm SVDP Meeting
Tuesday 2nd February <i>The Presentation of the Lord</i>	9.00am Mass 7.30pm Baptism Preparation Meeting
Wednesday 3rd February	9.00am Mass & Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C
Thursday 4th February	9.00am Mass 7.30pm Blue Mountains Folk Dance P/C
Friday 5th February <i>St. Agatha</i>	9.00am Mass 10.30am First Friday Visits 1.00pm Bowlers 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice
Saturday 6th February <i>St. Paul Miki & Companions</i>	9.00am Mass 9.00am St. Finbar's Netball Registration P/C 11.30am Te Deum Choir Practice 4.45pm Confession 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 7th February <i>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Year B</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.30am Welcome back Ministry morning tea 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm "The Lounge" Senior Youth Group P/C

Positions Vacant:

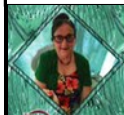
Parish Secretary – St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish, Upper Blue Mountains and Sacred Heart Parish, Blackheath – **Applications close 12 February 2021.** More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

COVID-19 UPDATE

The NSW Government will ease the Covid-19 restrictions starting this Friday night. Places of Worship will still be subject to 1 in 4 sqm rule and masks are still compulsory. For our church we can have up to 150 people inside the church starting this Weekend in keeping with the 4sqm rule. Please remember to clean your seat before you leave the church. Thanking you all for all your help and support.

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.



Dawn Willis: Soprano & Lyn Phillips Accompanist

Disaster Relief Fundraiser Concert for St. Vincent de Paul
At St. Finbar's Catholic Church

Cost: \$12 per ticket or \$10 Concession

What is **Clericalism**? Why have the recent popes seen it as a big problem for the church? Join a discussion with Gideon Goosen on **Tuesday 16th February** (7.30-9.00pm) in the parish meeting room. Contact the Parish Office to register.

LENT 2021 WITH BRUCE DOWNES THE CATHOLIC GUY

Be inspired, Be refreshed, Be renewed! Come on a 40 day journey with me and I know this will be a powerful and prayerful Lenten journey together. Receive a short inspiring video each day during Lent. This program is **FREE** and you can sign up here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent>
Call 1300 734 880 for more info

Bateman Battersby

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Patricia Watson (Jim Pope's sister), Colin Darby (Stephen Darby's Father), 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, 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:

Henriette Harrington, Monica Cashman, Peter Burrett, Fredrick Casey, John Halligan, Lillie Ferrie, Amanda McCulloch, Olive O'Neill, Thomas Nolan and Stella Ryan.

ROSTER FOR 6TH & 7TH FEBRUARY 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			Grace Incorvil & Abigail Stanford
Warden	Vince Dobson & Allan Jones	Volunteer Please	Steve Newton
1 st Reading	Philomena Watkins	Michelle Wilson	Jessica Doherty
2 nd Reading	Katy Ferris	John Killeen	Steve Baird
Intercession	Ken Schneiders	Kevin Flynn	Martin Rogers
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Elizabeth Konza	Pat Watson
Cashiers	Joe Grange		
Church Care	Jeannine Ashbee, Deb Youngman, Leesa & Wayne Gillard		
Piety Stall	Carmel Higgins		
Children's Liturgy	Christyna		
Garden Club	Kevin Debeck, Rob Lennon, Michael Lloyd & John Killeen		

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