



# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B  
13th & 14th February 2021

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 31; 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45

## FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Where From Here...

Last weekend Bishop Vincent and Fr. Jolly came to celebrate with us the Vigil Mass during which Bishop Vincent has installed me as PP of St Finbars. He said jokingly that my signature is very elaborate, like the one of the former US President Donald Trump. Of course, the US President has much more power and his decisions may have a great impact on billions of lives. Neither do I want power, nor do I think that I am here to govern. My understanding is that I am here to walk with you on your journey of faith. Together we walk as pilgrims of faith. On Being Together on the Journey, Vatican II states so wonderfully in one of its major documents: "The joys and the hopes, the griefs, and the anxieties of the people of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ. Indeed, nothing genuinely human fails to raise an echo in their hearts. For theirs is a community composed of people. United in Christ, they are led by the Holy Spirit in their journey to the Kingdom of their Father and they have welcomed the news of salvation which is meant for every person. That is why this community realizes that it is truly linked with mankind and its history by the deepest of bonds." (Gaudium et Spes no. 1)

I have said on many occasions that St Finbars is not MY parish. Rather, the parish is US and WE are the STEWARDS of the faith and its transmission to the next generation. Pope Francis calls us to be a new community, one that is SYNODAL. We are Church because we are BEING TOGETHER on the pilgrimage. This is an opportunity for conversion and renewal through a transformative gaze at the encounter with Jesus Christ. This Christ encounter enables us to realize that God desires and calls all people to holiness. Carried by this renewed self-awareness, we grow in confidence to take up responsibilities and to make our contributions to the building up of the Church. May I invite you to consider your involvement and to assist the Parish in building up a community that is transformative and faithful to Christ. There are many tasks in the House of the LORD.

Last weekend's celebration and welcoming hospitality have demonstrated visibly that we are BEING TOGETHER as a community. It has brought together old and young. The Columbarium was a common effort by many parishioners. To support the synodal way in our parish, we will soon resume the Plenary discussion process interrupted by COVID 19. I would like to thank you all for your commitment and love for God and for our Parish. I am so glad that I can be part of this wonderful community.

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is meant to be a time of repentance. That is not a feeling of shame, but an awareness that sin separates us from God and of what it cost Him to be reunited with us. That is why conflating Lent with New Year's resolutions is dangerous. This time of fasting should not add religious encouragement to a difficult goal: to lose weight, to stop watching pornography, or to give money to charity. "Lent is [...] an opportunity to contemplate what our Lord really did for us on the Cross." Resolutions reflect a desire for autonomy from God instead of recognizing that the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19) and the work of the potter, to be regarded as precious (Isaiah 64:8).

Resolutions simply focus on "self," not Christ. Lent is a good time to give up one's own resolutions and listen for God's leading. Where God leads might be more difficult than any fast, and, here, Christians realize that they cannot do anything in their own strength either: only the grace of God is sufficient (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Fr. Joe

## PARISH INFORMATION

**Parish Priest:** Fr Joseph Lam OSA

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E-mail: glenbrook@parracatholic.org

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**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

**Ash Wednesday will be on the 17th of February 2021. A day of Prayer, Fasting & Good Deeds. Two Masses will be held for the distribution of ashes here at St. Finbar's, 9am Morning Mass and 7.30pm Evening Mass.**

## PROJECT COMPASSION

Boxes and envelopes are available in the Narthex this weekend. Please take yours home today. Please support Caritas Australia generously to reach out to the less fortunate. Thank you.



**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

## FR. JOSEPH'S INSTALLATION

Last Saturday Fr Joseph Lam was officially installed as Parish priest of our parish by Bishop Vincent. The installation took place during a moving ceremony at the Vigil Mass, attended by a large number of parishioners. The parishioners wish to congratulate Fr Joe and offer him their full co-operation as together we follow Christ on our pilgrim journey.

## SACRAMENTS INFORMATION EVENING.

An Information Night for the parents of children who wish to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist in 2021 will be held at the Parish Hall on Monday the 1st of March at 7.30pm. Dates and requirements for participation in each of the Sacramental journeys will be discussed and distributed at this meeting. Children need not attend.

## ST FINBARS MENS BREAKFAST

**Date - Saturday 6th March 2021, Time - 7:30 am – 9:00 am, Venue - Parish hall**

The parish is holding another Men's breakfast as an opportunity for parishioners and the community to meet and get to know one another.

This invitation is open to all male parishioners and any of their sons, grandsons, neighbours and friends. For catering purposes we will need to confirm numbers by Sunday 28th Feb 2021.

Please add your name to the list on the warden's table. Any questions please contact the organisers, Carl Moll 0417 471 137 or John De Mattia 4739 6775

## SUNDAY BAPTISMS:

The Parish joyfully announces the Baptism of Hazel Anne Francis who is going to be Baptised this Sunday and warmly welcomes her into our Faith Community.

## NEW VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED-CHURCH CARE GROUP

*We are appealing to the Parish community for new volunteers to assist our group. Each group has between three to five members who meet to clean our church approximately every six to eight weeks.*

*The clean takes about 1½ hours. Our existing volunteers have been serving for many years and we are in dire need of some younger people.*

*If you are interested in joining or being an emergency person then please contact Heather Lee 0403 779922/ 4739 4906 or Juliana in the parish office. Thank you.*

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 5TH MARCH AT ST FINBARS 7:30PM

The host country this year is Vanuatu and the theme is *Built on a Strong Foundation*. The service is held each year on the First Friday in March and is a global ecumenical movement of informed Christian prayer and prayerful action across over 170 countries.

All welcome – we would love for you to come along and meet people from local churches. The service will be held in line with St. Finbar's COVID Safety Plan.

For further information please contact Todd Stanford on 0422 072 373.

*Organised by the Glenbrook Blaxland Inter church Group.*

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



***Dawn Willis: Soprano & Lyn Phillips Accompanist  
Disaster Relief Fundraiser Concert for St. Vincent de Paul  
At St. Finbar's Catholic Church  
Saturday 20th February 2021 at 2pm  
Cost: \$12 per ticket or \$10 Concession***

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## PARISH CALENDAR

## DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

<b>Sunday</b> <b>14th February</b> <i>6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>10.45am Baptisms</b> 2.00pm St. Andrews Uniting Church Visit
<b>Monday</b> <b>15th February</b>	<i>No Morning Mass</i> 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>16th February</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> 10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C 7.30pm Clericalism Discussion M/R
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>17th February</b> <i>Ash Wednesday Fast &amp; Abstinence</i>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> 9.30am Playgroup P/C <b>7.30pm Mass</b>
<b>Thursday</b> <b>18th February</b>	<b>10.00am Healing Mass</b> 2.00pm Lenten Group M/R 7.30pm Blue Mountains Folk Dance P/C
<b>Friday</b> <b>19th February</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> 1.00pm Bowlers 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice
<b>Saturday</b> <b>20th February</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> 11.30am Te Deum Choir Practice 2.00pm Dawn Willis Recital <b>4.45pm Confession</b> <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b> <b>21st February</b> <i>1st Sunday of Lent Year B</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> 11.00am Young Families Lenten Group P/C <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b> 7.00pm "The Lounge" Senior Youth Group P/C

### Positions Vacant:

- Natural Family Planning Educator (Casual) – Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 19 February 2021**
- Social Justice Coordinator – Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 5pm 22 February 2021**

More details at: [parracatholic.org/employment](http://parracatholic.org/employment)  
**Institute for Mission 2021 formation programs – sign up today**

Interested or already involved in your parish community initiatives? Looking to explore key themes of the Catholic tradition? Express your interest today in the Institute for Mission's Reflective Ministry and Themes of Faith programs for your life and faith enrichment. They are 100% free and begin in early March in an online format. For more information, contact Sr Grace on 9296 6369 or [grace.roclawska@ifm.org.au](mailto:grace.roclawska@ifm.org.au) or Donnie on 0432042140 or [donnie.velasco@ifm.org.au](mailto:donnie.velasco@ifm.org.au)

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.

### The need is acute!

Low-income communities are not asking us for money or gifts. They reject degrading dependence. They want you to share your skills to help develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. The call is to all trades and professions to assist build the ability of their people and the capacity of their organisations. To properly prepare for a 2022 placement you do need to [enquire now](http://palms.org.au). Visit [palms.org.au](http://palms.org.au), call Palms on 02 9560 5333 or email [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)



**St. Vincent de Paul**. Is proud to announce the 2021 edition of the Mini Vinnies Formation Program (MVFP) for students in Years 4 – 6, who wish to undertake Social Justice Formation in their own time. For more information please go to <https://bit.ly/VinniesMVFP> This is the link to the **Vinnies Metropolitan Schools January 2021 Newsletter**: [https://youthnsw.vinnies.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/School-Newsletter\\_Metro\\_Term-1-2021.pdf](https://youthnsw.vinnies.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/School-Newsletter_Metro_Term-1-2021.pdf)

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**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Terrence Fitzpatrick (Frank Fitzpatrick's brother), 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, Ellen Moffitt, Terry Stevens, Jacqui Visser, Joan Lohrey, Joanne Macrae, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Maddison Farrugia, Sophie Hollies, Colleen Nolan, Pam Clyne and Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:**

John Nethery, Margaret Meere, Beth Fehon, Cedric McNamara, Louise Marquardt, Alice McGoldrick, Sarah Frazer, Ian Graham, Terry Groves and Robin Miles.

**ROSTER FOR 20TH & 21ST FEBRUARY 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	Joshua Toutounji & Dominic Scanlan		Andy Rogers & Leia Agahari
Warden	Lorraine Brown	Volunteer Please	Frank Fitzpatrick
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Maire Griffin	John Killeen	Peter or Trish Hurley
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Gideon Goosen	Volunteer Please	Gary Clune
Intercession	Margaret Moore	John De Mattia	Frank Fitzpatrick
IT Operators	Henry Hanco	Joseph Wilson	Susan Dowling
Cashiers	Robyn Flynn, Ann & Ray Keating		
Children's Liturgy	Colin		
Piety Stall	Lee Jackson		
Church Care	Veronica Clune, Fran Isaksen, Lynne Atkinson & St. Finbar's Playgroup		
Garden Club	Lukas Rajnoch, Andrew Howard, Stuart Sheary & Daniel Lynch		

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