

The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
5th Sunday of the Resurrection of Our Lord
1st & 2nd May 2021

Acts 9:26-31; Ps 21; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

This Sunday's readings

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31: Paul is accepted by the apostles at Jerusalem.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 21:26-27,28,30,31-32: The whole world shall praise the Lord.

Second Reading

1 John 3:18-24: God commands us to believe in Jesus Christ and to love one another.

Gospel Reading

John 15:1-8: Jesus teaches that he is the vine and that his disciples are the branches.

Background on the Gospel Reading by Loyola Press

Today's reading from the Gospel of John is part of Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper. Recall that John tells the story of Jesus' Last Supper differently from the other Evangelists. In John's Gospel, the Last Supper begins with Jesus washing his disciples' feet. Jesus then provides them with a series of instructions. We call this section the Last Supper discourse or Jesus' farewell discourse. In these chapters of John's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples about the importance of following his example of love and service, about the gift they will receive when Jesus sends them the Holy Spirit, and about their relationship with Jesus and with the world. The Last Supper discourse concludes with Jesus' prayer for his disciples.

Today's Gospel reading is taken from middle of the Last Supper discourse. Jesus speaks about his relationship to his disciples. In his metaphor of the vine and the branches, Jesus is referencing the Hebrew Scriptures. In the Hebrew Scriptures, Israel is the vineyard, and Yahweh himself tends the vineyard. One of the primary themes of John's Gospel is to show Jesus to be the fulfillment of God's promises to Israel.

In this passage, Jesus teaches his disciples that his relationship with them will not end after his death; he will remain with them always. This unity between Jesus and his disciples is the basis for their ability to continue to do the work that he began. Similarly, Jesus' presence with us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to continue the work of love and reconciliation that he began.

Jesus also teaches his disciples about the importance of the words he has taught to them. Just as Jesus will remain in the disciples, so too will his words. We come to know Jesus through the Scriptures, the living Word of God. Our commitment to be Christ's disciples is sustained through God's Word. This commitment is also strengthened by our life of prayer and nourished by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist, Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in his name.

We observe many people who act in ways that show their commitment to serve their neighbour. Christians and non-Christians feed the hungry, care for the sick, shelter the homeless, and give alms to the poor. These actions become acts of Christian discipleship when they are motivated by our relationship with Jesus. Whatever the immediate results, Jesus promises us that these actions will bear fruit when we undertake them in his name.

Fr. Joe

I Am the True Vine



PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam OSA

E-mail: joseph.lam@parracatholic.org

Phone: 0490 148 387 (**Emergency calls only for Sickness or Death**).

Secretary: Juliana Khnouf

E-mail: secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Admin: Peter McMahan

E-mail: glenbrook@parracatholic.org

Phone: 0404 010 997

Office Hours: 9.30am – 3.00pm

Tuesday to Friday

(Closed on Mondays)

Office Phone: **Ne w (02) 47426958**

Address:

46 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

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

Catholic Care—Wilcannia—Forbes

St. Vincent de Paul, Mr and Mrs Dobson, St. Finbar's Parish Glenbrook.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Dobson,

I am writing to express our thanks for your kind donation to CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes and our Mission to support the families and communities of Western NSW.

With support such as this, we are able to work with people in need of urgent assistance to address homelessness, family relationships, access to education, training and employment, life skill needs, mental health issues, financial management and other issues.

We have seen so many times how a gift such as yours, when assisting even just one person, can have a wonderful flow-on effect for their family and community, as that one individual contributes and engages more positively and confidently in all aspects of life. Please find attached your receipt.

Thank you once again for your support of our organisation.

Yours sincerely,

Kerri-Ann Mundy

Contracts Officer

DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING POLICY

The top priority of our Diocese as well as our Parish is to provide a safe environment for ALL worshippers and ministries. Every single person needs to feel safe and respected. Paramount to all combined efforts is ensuring the safety of children and vulnerable adults and building Safe Communities built on Justice, Voice and Integrity. From February 2021 all Parish employees and volunteers (such as readers, musicians, senior servers, wardens, sacristans, children liturgy, baptismal team, sacramental program, SRE teachers ...etc.) working with children and vulnerable adults, will be required to undertake Safeguarding Training to earn mandatory points toward individual competencies (varying requirements for different roles) and ensuring each Parish fulfills the Safeguarding accreditation process.

Each volunteer may need to acquire a total of six credit points which may take 2-3 hours of online training. I have just finished my first online training (30min, 2 points).

Juliana is currently doing her online training.

For further details, please contact the parish office or visit: safeguarding.org.au

AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA

The Parish is hosting *Australia's Biggest Morning Tea* in support of Breast Cancer on Friday the 7th of May 2021 at 10.30am in the Parish Hall. Please save the date and feel free to invite as many friends as possible. Candle wicking quilt to be raffled on the day, tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Tickets are available on the day or from the parish office. Door prizes & Raffle tickets. Eftpos facilities will be available on the day.

If you are able to help on the day please contact the parish office on 47426958.

Thank you for your generosity to support such a great cause.



Bible Study. On Wednesdays for four weeks. Topic Themes from John's Gospel.

Wednesday April 21 and 28 and May 5 and 12. Time: 7.30 pm -9.00pm.

Venue: phone Gideon Goosen on 0425 351 334 for further information.

We value cost and care as much as you do

BLUE MOUNTAINS FUNERALS

KATOOMBA | SPRINGWOOD | EMU PLAINS
4751 6166 | bluemountainsfunerals.com.au

Supremacy Funerals
Affordable Excellence

Three Generations of Catholic Funeral Directors
Local Ladies of the Blue Mountains
4721 2020
We are here for you 24 hours - 7 days a week
Located: 44 Station St, Penrith NSW 2750
Email: info@supremacyfunerals.com.au visit our
Website: www.supremacyfunerals.com.au

BEAUTIFUL SIMPLE FAREWELLS

4735 6900 | gracefunerals.com.au

GRACE FUNERALS
Formerly Lady of Grace Funerals

PENRITH | BLUE MOUNTAINS | WESTERN SYDNEY

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED
15 years
PERSONALISED AND HONOURING

PARISH CALENDAR

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

<p>Sunday 2nd May 2021 <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 1.30pm Bridge P/C 2.00pm St. Andrews Uniting Church visit 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm "The Lounge" Senior Youth Group P/C</p>
<p>Monday 3rd May <i>Sts. Philip & James</i></p>	<p><i>No Morning Mass. Office is closed</i></p>
<p>Tuesday 4th May</p>	<p>9.00am Mass 10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C</p>
<p>Wednesday 5th May</p>	<p>9.00am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Thursday 6th May</p>	<p>9.00am Mass 1.30pm Bridge Club P/C 7.30pm Blue Mountains Folk Dance P/C</p>
<p>Friday 7th May</p>	<p>9.00am Mass 10.30am First Friday Visits 10.30am Australia's Biggest Morning Tea P/C 1.00pm Bowlers 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p>
<p>Saturday 8th May</p>	<p>9.00am Mass 10.30am Funeral Service for Shane Navin 11.30am Te Deum Choir Practice 4.45pm Confession 5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 9th May <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass</p>

Positions Vacant:

- **Head: Formation for Mission** – Diocese of Parramatta – Applications close Monday 10 May
- **Head: Mission Engagement** – Diocese of Parramatta – Applications close Monday 10 May.

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

Social Justice COVID-19 Food and Toiletries Drive

Jesuit Refugee Service and House of Welcome are dealing with a 400% increase in emergency assistance calls and are needing to feed over 1,000 people facing destitution each week. You can help by running a food and toiletry drive or donating yourself. For more information, contact House of Welcome on office@houseofwelcome.com.au or (02) 9727 9290 or JRS on foodbank@jrs.org.au or (02) 9098 9336.

Life, Marriage and Family Office Marriage Preparation Courses

Dates for the Diocesan Life, Marriage and Family Office's in-person marriage preparation weekend courses in 2021 are now available, with the SmartLoving Engaged Online course another option to prepare for your marriage. For more information, or to book your course, visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp or call (02) 8838 3460.

Community Visitors Scheme Volunteers Needed

The Community Visitors Scheme, a program with CatholicCare, is looking for volunteers to provide a friendly visit to residents in local Aged Care Facilities who are lonely or isolated from their family and friends. If you feel you could spare one hour a week or a fortnight to help a person feel more valued and respected, please contact the Manager, Deb Woolcott on 0418 114 055 or email deb.woolcott@ccss.org.au.

Introduction to Safeguarding Training

The Diocese of Parramatta is launching new online Safeguarding training for all parish staff and volunteers. Zoom sessions to introduce the training will be held 2pm-3pm on May 5. More information to follow or email Sonia Fingleton at the Diocese at sonia.fingleton@parracatholic.org

Bateman Battersby

L A W Y E R S

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

Phone: 02 47315899

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Law • Business Law • Wills & Estates | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Law • Negligence Law • Court Appearances |
|---|---|

www.batemanbattersby.com.au

Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au

Intellect Finance

Joseph Sukkar
(B.Comm) Dip MBCA
Mortgage Broker
ACL No. 390611

Home Loans & Refinancing

Commercial Loans

Self-Managed Superfund Loans

Motor Vehicle / Equipment Loans

0415 244 784 ☎ 02 8061 6535

joe@intellectfinance.com.au

www.intellectfinance.com.au



Turner Freeman

Lawyers Est. 1952

Turner Freeman Lawyers have been providing members of the community with outstanding legal services since 1952 in the following areas:
Personal injury claims | Wills & estate planning | Property law | Deceased estates & will disputes

Suite 4, 311 High Street Penrith NSW 2750

☎ 4729 5200

🌐 www.turnerfreeman.com.au

📧 Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Judy Baird (Steve Baird's Mother), Peggy Sue Muni (Merrilee and John Verhoeven's sister), Tony McKale (Merrilee and John Verhoeven's relative), Helena Armstrong, Cary Dukes, Father Mick O'Callaghan, Shirley Konza, Terrence Fitzpatrick (Frank Fitzpatrick's brother), Patricia Watson (Jim Pope's sister), Colin Darby (Stephen Darby's Father), Michelle Anthony and Kathleen Griffin.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

John Wesley (Mike Rivas Cousin), Margaret Stevens, Lyn Beltran, 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:

Ray Smith, Angela Pereira, David Apps, Tadeusz Bojec, Jonathan Baines, Michael Wilcox, Edna Mooney, Alexander Laing and Peter Smith.

ROSTER FOR 8TH & 9TH MAY 2021

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Anaru Veitch	Peter McMahon	Deb Lawrence
Senior Server	Anaru Veitch	Peter McMahon	Garry Pursehouse
Junior Server	Alex & Johnny McLoughlin	Joshua & Lucy Toutounji	Emily Dowling & Sophie McDonald
Warden	Ken Schneiders	Volunteer Please	Patricia Murnane
1 st Reading	Allan Jones	Michelle Wilson	Richard Cutler
2 nd Reading	Dawn Willis	Geraldine Agahari	Carmel Higgins
Intercession	Ken Schneiders	John Killeen	Joanne Stubbs
IT Operators	Eleanor Thompson	Robyn Flynn	Joseph Marceau
Gifts	Allan & Eileen Jones	David & Dianne Shatford	Dorothea Walsh & Volunteer Please
Communion	Thea Robertson	Gwen Cullinan	Gerard Egan
Cashiers	Joe Grange		
Children's Liturgy	Danielle		
Piety Stall	Beth Culliver		
Church Care			
Hospitality	Anne King, Lynne Atkinson, Daren & Liz Dukes		
Garden Club			



Ballimino's
 CAFE & PIZZERIA
 EST. 2019
 BREAKFAST | LUNCH | DINNER
 OPEN 7 DAYS - 9AM TILL LATE - FULLY LICENSED
 SHOP 2/5 ROSS STREET, GLENBROOK NSW 2773 | (02) 4739 6582



YOUTH NIGHT
 ST. FINBAR'S PARISH, GLENBROOK
 EVERY 1ST & 3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH @ 6PM
 MASS: 6PM SUPPER: 7PM
 THE LOUNGE YOUTH GROUP: 7.30-8.30PM