



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B
26th & 27th June 2021

Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24; Ps 29; 2 Corinthians 8:7,9,13-15; Mark 5:21-43

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

COVID 19 Vaccination: May you excel in this gracious act also...

Finally, on Wednesday I got my first dose of the Pfizer vaccine. The second will be a month later. I got the Pfizer vaccine because I belong to the category under 50! Juliana and Peter have already been vaccinated against Covid. I am aware that among Catholic ethicists and moral theologians there is debate about vaccination. Of course, I am conscious of the *pro* and *contra* arguments. From the Catholic point of view, as Pope Francis has suggested earlier in an interview, COVID 19 vaccination may to be considered as a *moral obligation*. He said:

'I believe that morally everyone must take the vaccine. It is the moral choice because it is about your life but also the lives of others.' *The Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith* also affirms that it is 'morally acceptable for Catholics to take vaccines against the Coronavirus.' In a statement, the Congregation said: 'When ethically irreproachable COVID-19 vaccines are not available ... it is morally acceptable to receive COVID-19 vaccines that have used cell lines from aborted fetuses in their research and production process. In the absence of other means to stop or even prevent the epidemic, the common good may recommend vaccination, especially to protect the weakest and most exposed.'

In today's second reading, St. Paul asked that Christians not only excel in skills and knowledge, but more in gracious acts. According to a dictionary, gracious acts are voluntary acts that may include kindness, gratitude, and empathy. Yet, the bible associates the gracious act first and foremost with God who is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made." (Psalm 145:8-9). It has to do with God's generosity by which he redeemed us. This attribute of God, his graciousness, the consistent favour he shows towards humanity, is something the Bible celebrates. It is presented throughout Scripture as the undeserved gift it truly is.

Hence, St Paul emphasised the value of grace: 'Let your speech always be gracious.' ([Colossians 4:6](#)). This means that Christians are not to propagate things that go against God's compassionate and loving nature. It would be taking God's name in vain!

Of course, we need to speak out against inaccuracies and deception. Not only is it gracious to humbly inform people of their error, and protect others from it, but how we talk can be gracious or ungracious.

What does Paul celebrate first about love in 1 Corinthians 13? "Love is patient" ([1 Corinthians 13:4](#)). He considered patience to be one of the distinguishing marks of his ministry ([2 Corinthians 6:6](#); [12:12](#); [2 Timothy 3:10](#)). "Be patient" is one of his repeated exhortations to church leaders ([1 Thessalonians 5:14](#); [2 Timothy 2:24](#); [4:2](#)). And not just patience, but as [2 Timothy 4:2](#) commends, "complete patience"!

Paul prays that we would be "strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance *and patience with joy*" ([Colossians 1:11](#)). This is the kind of patience we need. We can grit our teeth and endure without joy and win no one. Or we can endure with contagious joy, and out-rejoice those who don't yet see things as we think they should.

God is graciously generous towards us. Shouldn't we also be generous and compassionate towards ourselves and others? If God always cares for our common good, are we not also to act in the interest of the common good? Have a great Sunday.

Fr Joe

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 McMahon

E-mail: admin@stfinbars.org.au

Phone: 0404 010 997

Office Hours: 9.30am – 3.00pm

Tuesday to Friday

(Closed on Mondays)

Office Phone: **New (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

NEW ENVELOPES - These are now available on the tables in the church narthex. Please take yours home today and begin using them from the first weekend in July. Please also make sure your 2020/2021 envelope donations are up to date by the end of June. Thank you all for your generosity.

SUNDAY BAPTISMS:

The Parish joyfully announces the Baptism of Sebastian Henri Young who is going to be Baptised during 9.30am

Mass and Grace Rose Tinsley and James Peter Tinsley who are going to be Baptised after Mass this Sunday, and warmly welcomes them into our Faith Community.



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

JOAN LOHREY'S FUNERAL MASS

Joan Lohrey's Funeral Mass will be held at on Tuesday 29th of June 2021 at 11am. Please keep her family in your prayers. May she rest in peace.

RE: COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) UPDATE

NSW Health has revised the COVID-19 guidelines.

The following are effective Wednesday 23 June 2021, and applicable for seven days across Greater Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

Places of Worship and Religious Services The maximum number of people at places of worship will now be limited by the 4 square metre rule (rather than 2 square metres), both indoors and outdoors.

Weddings and Funerals The maximum number of people at weddings and funerals will also be limited by the 4 square metre rule (rather than 2 square metres), both indoors and outdoors.

Singing Indoor singing by the congregation is not permitted at this time. No information has been provided by NSW Health on choirs at this time. Further information will be communicated when this becomes available.

Face Masks NSW Health continues to mandate that masks are to be worn at all indoor venues, including places of worship.

CANCELLED - LITURGICAL- SPIRITUAL FORMATION DAY.

Please note that the Spiritual Formation Day has been cancelled due to the new Covid-19 Restrictions.

GATHERING OF TALENTS

Last week the Mountains Deanery Pastoral Council announced a **Gathering of Talents** session at St Thomas' Springwood on Sunday 19 September, 1- 4pm. We invited people from across parishes in the Blue Mountains Deanery to share what they do to bring life to their community in a range of ministries. For those who may have missed out, the survey form, inviting you to indicate preferences for attendance at workshops, is available on the seats. The completed form can be placed in the container near the Wardens' table.

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK ARTICLE

Recently, our friends from St Andrew Uniting Church gathered at St Finbars to celebrate their Sunday service. Fr Joe was present and was very grateful for the opportunity to be among the people of God. It was a wonderful and spiritual celebration.

Our journey has just started and we hope that we grow closer towards mutual respect and friendship. Let us always pray for this.



CANCELLED - KANIMBLA STRING QUARTET CONCERT

Please note that the Kanimbla String Quartet Concert has been rescheduled to another date due to the new NSW Government Covid-19 restrictions.



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PARISH CALENDAR

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

Sunday 27th June <i>13th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Baptisms
Monday 28th June <i>St. Irenaeus</i>	No Morning Mass. Office is closed 7.00pm Plenary Meeting M/R
Tuesday 29th June <i>Sts. Peter and Paul</i>	No Morning Mass 11.00am Joan Lohrey Funeral Mass 7.30pm July Baptisms Preparation Meeting M/R
Wednesday 30th June	9.00am Mass followed by Rosary 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C 7.30pm SFNC General Meeting M/R
Thursday 1st July	9.00am Mass 1.30pm Bridge Club P/C
Friday 2nd July	9.00am Mass 10.30am First Friday Visits 1.00pm Bowlers 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice
Saturday 3rd July <i>St. Thomas</i>	9.00am Mass 10am Pat Shelley Columbarium Interment 11.30am Te Deum Choir Practice 4.45pm Confession 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 4th July <i>14th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 2.00pm St. Andrews Uniting Church Service 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm "The Lounge" Senior Youth Group P/C

Positions Vacant:

- Formation for Mission Officers – Mission Engagement Team (MET), Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close Wednesday 10pm 30 June**
- Head of Finance & Business Operations – Catholic Diocese of Parramatta Services Limited (CDPSL) – **Applications close 5pm Monday 5 July**
More details at: parracatholic.org/employment
Non-Executive Director (2 positions) – Holy Family Services – **Applications close Thursday 1 July**
For a copy of the information pack, please contact Anthony Spata on 0402 210 055 or anthony@reachhr.com.au or Sr Grace Roclawski on 0420 754 733 or grace@csfn.org.au

Liturgical Ministry Formation Course 2021:

"The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will be running a second time in August. This is formation for anyone interested in serving in the Liturgical Ministries of Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion and Communion to the Sick and Dying. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Office for Worship on 8838 3456

or anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org; or refer to link to download the August 2021 enrolment form: <https://officeforworship.org.au>"

CANCELLED Archbishop Tim Costelloe SDB

Public Lecture: 28 June

Unfortunately, due to uncertainty about recent WA COVID-19 quarantine restrictions, and for health reason, Archbishop Tim Costelloe SDB, Archbishop of Perth and President of the Plenary Council, is unable to commit to deliver the public lecture at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, on Monday 28 June.

St Michael's Primary School, Baulkham Hills 50th Anniversary, 12 September 2021

St Michael's Primary School will reach a significant milestone this year - 50 years of educating children! We will be celebrating with a Mass at 1pm on Sunday, 12th September 2021. The Liturgy will be open to all our families, ex-students, ex-teachers and friends of St Michael's. This will be followed by afternoon tea in the school grounds, a performance by the choir, opportunities to view memorabilia and school tours. Please save the date in your calendar so that you can join us for this special occasion. Further information and registration details to follow.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Joan Lohrey, Barbara Higginson (Ragan), Karen Bishop, Maria James, John Wesley (Mike & Margaret Rivas' Cousin), Helena Armstrong, Cary Dukes and Shirley Konza.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Margaret Stevens, Lyn Beltran, 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, 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:

Mazelle Montgomery, Mary Robb, Valma Davenport, Christopher Robinson, Grace Farrell, Bernard Wilson, Michael Kelly, Dr. Charles Kerry, Joyce Adamson, Jessie Clayton, Helen Sheehan, Michael Willburg and Rita O'Malley

ROSTER FOR 3RD & 4TH JULY 2021

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Marie Hurley	Carl Moll	Gerard Egan
Senior Server	Peter McMahon	Carl Moll	Joseph Sukkar
Junior Server			Abigail Stanford & Emily Dowling
Warden	Vince Dobson & Allan Jones	Volunteer Please	Steve Newton
1 st Reading	Beth Culliver	John De Mattia	Pearse Cremin
2 nd Reading	Eileen Jones	John Killeen	Amanda Moore
Intercession	Maureen Tulk	Volunteer Please	Steve Newton
Music Ministry	Naomi's Group		Jenny Long & Anne Hobbs
IT Operators	Eleanor Thompson	Elizabeth Konza	Pat Watson
Gifts	Noreen Taylor & Janice Smith	Maria Heinzl & Stanis Drobiszewski	Michelle & Joseph Wilson
Communion	John Verhoeven	Volunteer Please	Garry Pursehouse
Cashiers	Joe Grange		
Children's Liturgy	School Holiday		
Piety Stall	Carmel Higgins		
Church Care			
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek, Vicky Ang, Tamar Alzened and Karen Sukkar		
Garden Club			



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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