

# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B  
10th & 11th July 2021

Amos 7:12-15; Psalm 84; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:7-13

## FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Dear Friends,

We have to hang in there for another week of lockdown! Not easy for all of us, I know. I have reached a dark point! Of course, we all want to have our lives back. Normality – that's what we all want. We want to go to work, to meet friends and relatives, just to have a coffee or take off the mask! As a Parish Priest, I am also worried about how I am going to keep our committed staff and pay them the wages they deserve. How am I to pay the insurances and utilities and other bills? How am I going to spread the Word of God when the church building is closed and empty? How am I able to dispense the sacraments and console those who are lonely and elderly?

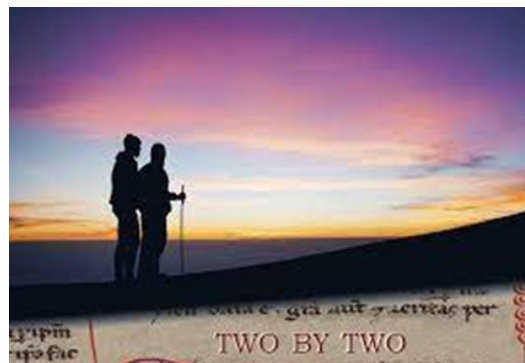
But what would be the price we would have to pay for a short-term freedom? And are we willing to pay for it?

I have never felt so powerless and humiliated! I am waiting and waiting into the night and when I am awake, I am still waiting as if the night does not know the light. Who is my enemy? It takes only one single virus to bring the entire globe to its knee! Even the most powerful nations failed to contain it. The scientific community never saw the virus coming and although COVID-19 is a variant of the known Coronavirus family, not a single lab had foreseen its genetic structure. Many citizens could not pay their final respects to loved ones who died alone. Today, pandemic management around the world has resulted in nothing positive except for governments to say that were it not for stringent measures, things could have been a lot worse — a horribly low standard of performance measurement.

Yet I won't give up my faith because it is the only window of hope I have. There are three things I can do. Instead of wasting my time in lamenting about things I have no power over, I – free from a busy schedule – can build up my relationship with God. Most of us pray every day. A quick mealtime prayer or a few moments in the morning or before we go to bed are pretty common practices. But praying is mostly a rare effort. Without our usual busy schedules, staying at home creates more space for us to get close to God in prayer.

Seeing the death toll rise, we learnt that time has one direction, and you never know what tomorrow holds. It was (still is) possible to be on the COVID-19 cases list any day. That is why we need to appreciate what we have today. When that opportunity is gone, it is gone! You can't get time back, and tomorrow is not guaranteed.

*Please continue reading on page 2*



## PARISH INFORMATION

### **Parish Priest:** Fr Joseph Lam OSA

E-mail: [joseph.lam@parracatholic.org](mailto:joseph.lam@parracatholic.org)

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

### **Secretary:** Juliana Khnouf

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

### **Admin:** Peter McMahon

E-mail: [admin@stfinbars.org.au](mailto: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](http://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.*

## FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Think about the things that have caused strife in families. They are generally very small matters that were blown out of proportion or misunderstood. During lockdown, we had a lot of time to connect with our families, we learnt that quarrelling and misunderstandings over petty things are simply not worth it.

Perhaps, these are good things that come with the lockdown. Recognize there are things about endings and beginnings that we do not control. Act on what we can control but recognize and move on from what we can't control. And finally, take time to remember that God is with us through all the events of our lives, and that these endings and beginnings are no different.

Let us ask for God's grace and help as we pursue these endings and these beginnings together with patience, perseverance, and trust in what He has planned for us.

*Fr. Joe*

## NAIDOC WEEK 4-11 July

Every year, Catholics come together across Australia to acknowledge and celebrate the gifts of Australia's First Peoples in the Catholic Church.

This year is particularly important following the COVID 19 Pandemic and its impact on the ways in which we interacted and made contact with one another.

We pray for Healing and Reconciliation:

Use the Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome to Country guide available at <http://www.natsicc.org.au/acknowledgement-and-welcome-to....>

## SAVE THE DATE -THE FEAST OF ST FINBAR CELEBRATIONS **SEPT 25th & 26t 2021**

The Parish will be celebrating St. Finbar's Feast this year with both a bingo night on the Saturday 25/9 and a family fun day on Sunday 26/9 after the 9:30 Mass.

This will be a wonderful time for us to get together and celebrate as a Parish

**\*\*ALL WELCOME\*\*** You may have talent for, or know someone who is good at say, face painting!. You may want to share your singing prowess or could provide entertainment (guitar/singing). You may have ideas of some activities that would be fun for everyone.

Please let me know if you would like to get involved or simply have ideas to share. More information will be provided over the coming weeks. If you are able to help please contact Jeannine Ashbee on 0419 617 441.

## ANNULMENT INFORMATION WEBINAR

Each year the Catholic Tribunal Office, Diocese of Parramatta and CatholicCare WSBM Solo Parent Services present an Information Session to help people understand the process of Annulments in the Catholic Church. Questions are answered in detail on all aspects of the Annulment process.

The event will be held online via Zoom. **Date:** Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July **Time:** 7pm -9pm

**Registration is Essential and will be handled by the Tribunal Office:** For further details and to register, please call the Tribunal Office PH: 8838 3480 or email [tribunal@parracatholic.org](mailto:tribunal@parracatholic.org)

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# PARISH CALENDAR

# DIocese OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

<b>Sunday</b> 11th July <i>15th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	<b>No Masses</b>
<b>Monday</b> 12th July	<b>No Morning Mass. Office is closed</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 13th July	<b>No Morning Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> 14th July	<b>No Morning Mass</b>
<b>Thursday</b> 15th July <i>St. Bonaventure</i>	<b>No Morning Mass</b>
<b>Friday</b> 16th July	<b>No Morning Mass</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 17th July	<b>Depending on the Government Health advice the Parish will announce at the proper time the Mass schedule for this weekend.</b>
<b>Sunday</b> 18th July <i>16th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	<b>We hope that the Mass times will be as usual.</b>

## Diocese of Parramatta COVID-19 update

Due to stay-at-home orders from the NSW Government, all church buildings, adoration chapels and other buildings used for prayer and religious services are closed. Public Masses have ceased. Many parishes around the Diocese are celebrating Masses online. For more information, please visit the Diocesan website [www.parracatholic.org/covid19](http://www.parracatholic.org/covid19)

## Thank you for supporting our seminarians – our future priests

Your kind-hearted gifts through the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal provide for the education, formation, spiritual guidance and practical experience our seminarians need to deepen their faith and prepare for a life of service to our community. Thanks to the generosity of our faith community, we have almost raised \$300,000. If you haven't had a chance to donate, you can still do so by visiting [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal). Thank you for your kind prayers, faithful accompaniment and caring support.

## Office for Worship Liturgical Ministry Formation Course

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 and Ministers. 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); or download the August 2021 enrolment form via [officeforworship.org.au](http://officeforworship.org.au)

## Office for Worship RCIA Teams Formation Sessions: Starting 21 July

The Office For Worship will be running a series of formation sessions for RCIA coordinators and teams in parishes. The sessions will take place in the evenings and will run over 5 weeks, beginning on Wednesday 21 July 2021. 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).

## Bateman Battersby LAWYERS

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

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





### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

John Dent, 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:

Jack Roles, Garry Thew, Thomas Boyle, Scott Grzonkowski, Geraldine James (Boyle), John Kelly, Margaret Frost, Kim Nolan, Jean Cottier, Kevin Bohan, Waclaw Zajicek, Thomas Binns and Kevin O'Donnell.

## **ROSTER FOR 17TH & 18TH JULY 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	Ann Keating	Cecilia Zammit
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Gideon Goosen	Elizabeth Konza	Annis Nilsson
Intercession	Margaret Moore	John Isaksen	Frank Fitzpatrick
Music Ministry	Cantabile		
IT Operators	Henry Hanko	Joseph Wilson	Susan Dowling
Gifts	Thea & Brian Robertson	Kay Whitty	Volunteers Please
Communion	Bernie Fisher	Volunteer Please	Annis Nilsson
Cashiers	Joe Grange		
Children's Liturgy	Colin		
Piety Stall	Lee Jackson		
Church Care	Youth Group		
Hospitality	Maggie Trevena, Irene and Bert Aligno		
Garden Club			

