



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B
31st July & 1st August 2021

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15; Psalm 77; Ephesians 4:17,20-24; John 6:24-35

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Dear Friends

By now you have already heard about the four weeks lockdown extension for Greater Sydney, Central Coast, and the Blue Mountains. I know, we are all tired and perhaps even angry. Like you, I have reached the point of exhaustion. And insanity is beginning to crawl in. I can feel for you and your families. We are not robots and machines. There is only so much we can take in.

Being in lockdown is just simply against our human nature. We are social beings. We need human contacts. We can't not just talk to our televisions or microwaves and fridges or washing machines. And the stove should not be the thing which gives us comfort and consolation. Particularly, we need to be in touch with God too. But how can we do it if the churches are closed! Humans are spiritual beings as well. To speak to God is essential for us Christians and to receive the sacraments is fundamental to our Catholic way of living!

For the next four weeks I will leave our church unlocked. Please make sure that when you pray, you adhere to all COVID rules (wearing mask, sanitizing your hand, check in etc.). At one time, only one person or one family of a household pray in the church!

Communion can be received at any time, but you need to contact the parish office! Confession is not encouraged at this time due to face-to-face contact, except in situation of mental distress!

During the lockdown, let us try to keep things moving. The sacramental program will go ahead, albeit online via Zoom or Google Meet. It is important for our children to experience the Grace of God through the Sacraments. We will have to move other events online as well, such as our Biblical Studies on the Prophets. For details of online events, please see our weekly Barra or our Facebook or regularly check your email box. There are also other online events available through the diocesan website. If you have ideas and suggestions that can assist parishioners to stay connected, please give the Parish office a call.

I would like to ask you to act responsibly so together we can sacramentally experience God's presence during this time of uncertainty. I thank you all for your support and prayers. You have been wonderful during the first five weeks of lockdown. Let us do it again in the next four weeks. We are the people and beloved of God!

May the good Lord help us and keep us open for the Hope that will never be darkened by the shade of the pandemic. Our faith in the victorious Cross of Christ will be our light in time of distress.

Let us keep all those who are confronted with challenges of health and relationship in our prayers. May God bless all of us.

Fr. Joe

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam OSA

E-mail: osep.h.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

5.30PM VIGIL MASS LIVE STREAMING LINK

<https://youtu.be/57SHWeDBGbg>

Fr Joe will be available in the Sacristy between 4pm and 5pm on Saturday if you want to come and collect the Body of Christ to take home and receive during the live-streamed Mass. Please bring your own pyx if possible.

HELP SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

We need your financial help for the parish to remain viable during lockdown.

Please donate via the 'Make a Payment' button on the front page of the parish website or directly to our

Glenbrook Catholic Church

account BSB 067-950

Account 0000 0297

(use all 8 digits please and put your name as a reference)

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

EVENTS AT ST FINBARS DURING LOCKDOWN

Due to the four-week lockdown extension for Greater Sydney, Central Coast and the Blue Mountains, our parish will have no other choice than to move many events online. See the Parish Calendar (on the next page) to join in these activities.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Sacrament of reconciliation

For valid reasons, some children were unable to complete the preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To assist those children and their parents, an additional session will be conducted online on 3rd August from 3.30 -4.30pm

Sacrament of First Reconciliation - Makeup session

Tuesday, August 3 · 3:30 – 4:30pm

<https://zoom.us/j/92228883278?pwd=cUpFQTJLYmtOcmkxZGFGS2lnWkFRQT09>

Meeting ID: 922 2888 3278

Passcode: 822802

Once the restrictions are lifted, we will have the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Church.

It has been set for 4/9 between 11am-12pm.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Prior to the lockdown, the start of the sessions for confirmation was scheduled for 11/8. We intend to keep this date but will have to do it via Zoom meetings. We are currently exploring the copyright for the materials.

We will email you in due course further details.

Thursday, 5 August, 7.30 – 9.00pm

Topic: Where is God in this time of Pandemic? The Voices of the Prophets

<https://zoom.us/j/92018105523?pwd=MjNUb2EyR0hEcTRxZUNTQmtHeWNtUT09>

Meeting ID: 920 1810 5523

Passcode: 839970

PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

Given the Government restrictions and lockdown; and seeing as a Parish cannot have gathering in the hall or the church. The Parish had to postpone the scheduled Trivia Night. At the moment the Parish is rethinking the dates when we will be allowed to have a gathering in the Hall again and will update you on the new date once the situation becomes clearer. Thanking you all for all your help and support.

Many thanks for the beautiful and very thoughtful parcel that was left on our front door by one of St. Finbar's Parishioners. It was such a great surprise. Greatly appreciated.

Margaret and Reg Moore.



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Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

in developing countries which do not have the means to buy or produce Catholic content. These programs are seen and heard by about 36 million people worldwide every day. Can you help ensure that the faith is available in every corner of the world? Visit www.aidtochurch.org/media

MESSAGE FROM AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA:

Especially in remote and non-Christian areas, the faith is often nurtured via faith-based TV and radio programs. For over thirty years ACN has supported the Catholic Radio and Television Network which provides programming to networks in developing countries which do not have the means to buy or produce Catholic content. These programs are seen and heard by about 36 million people worldwide every day. Can you help ensure that the faith is available in every corner of the world? Visit www.aidtochurch.org/media

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PARISH CALENDAR

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

Sunday 1st August <i>18th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	No Mass
Monday 2nd August	Office is closed
Tuesday 3rd August <i>St. Dominic</i>	Cuppa with parishioners and parish staff Tuesday, August 3 · 10:30 – 11:30am via Zoom https://zoom.us/j/98671002499? pwd=YVg0aXRWVDk5eUxpEEyeEcvZHpLUT09 Meeting ID: 986 7100 2499 Passcode: 857071
Wednesday 4th August <i>St. John Vianney</i>	7:30pm Night Prayer via Zoom Night prayers 7:30 – 8:30pm Via Zoom https://zoom.us/j/92184897769? pwd=WXJBVVh4UXk2UCtRRm84NDdQdkJQUt09 Meeting ID: 921 8489 7769 Passcode: 715176
Thursday 5th August	Biblical studies Thursday, August 5 · 7:30 – 8:30pm Via Zoom Topic: Where is God in this time of Pandemic? The Voices of the Prophets https://zoom.us/j/92018105523? pwd=MjNub2EyRDhEcTRxZUNTQmtHeWNtUT09 Meeting ID: 920 1810 5523 Passcode: 839970
Friday 6th August <i>The Transfiguration of the Lord</i>	7.30pm Mass Friday, August 6 · 7:30 – 8:30pm Via Zoom https://zoom.us/j/99689372303? pwd=VTFmQ0RZQVBMQjVXdfQ0c0Y5eWp5QT09 Meeting ID: 996 8937 2303 Passcode: 992085
Saturday 7th August	5.30pm Live Streaming of the Vigil Mass https://youtu.be/_5GaNk5x4kM
Sunday 8th August <i>St. Mary Of the Cross Solemnity</i>	No Mass

RE: 2021 Faith in Marriage Seminar

We regret to inform you that the 2021 Faith in Marriage Seminar, scheduled for Friday 13 August 2021, has been cancelled.

The seminar will be rescheduled to a date to be advised.

Parish Online Ministry during COVID

There are an extraordinary amount of initiatives taking place online across the Diocese in a number of parishes. These include games nights, trivia competitions, formation, scripture studies and wellbeing check-ins. If your community is willing to share these opportunities beyond your own Parish, the Mission Enhancement Team (MET Parramatta) would love to hear from you and help connect others who are struggling at this time. Email met@parracatholic.org

Euthanasia, Dying and the Dignity of the Human Person Talks

The Diocese of Parramatta is co-hosting a series of talks on euthanasia with the Diocese of Broken Bay ahead of the expected introduction of a draft bill in NSW Parliament to legalise euthanasia. The series of talks will be held via Zoom over three Monday nights starting 2 August at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend. Information and registration can be found at parracatholic.org/euthanasiatalks/

Office for Worship Liturgical Ministry Formation Course

Given the restrictions and lockdown; and seeing as we cannot have Masses, we have had to postpone the course. At the moment we are rethinking the dates when we could begin and will update you once the situation becomes clearer. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org or download the enrolment form via officeforworship.org.au

Get vaccinated for the common good

Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available. More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Anton Goosen (Gideon's brother), Roberto Di Nucci, Adam Carlyon (Theresa Luczak's Son in Law), John Dent, Joan Lohrey, Barbara Higginson (Ragan), Karen Bishop and Maria James.

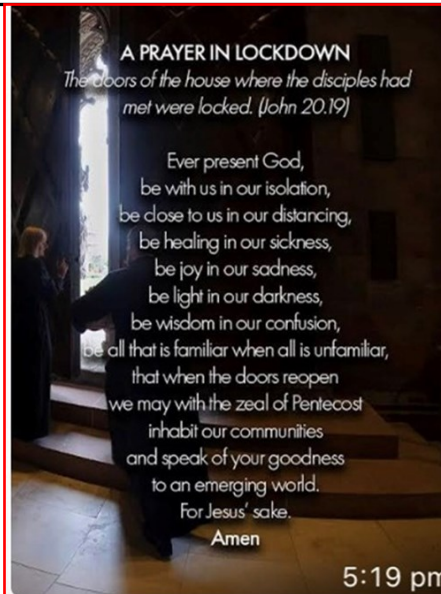
PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Colleen McHardy, Margaret Stevens, Lyn Beltran, Christine McGillion, Margaret Christensen, 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:

Frances Roberts, Leslie Cullen, Jeffrey Plim, Marian Wiecek, Brian Martland, Daisy Watterson, John Guerin, Gweneth Pinson, Carmel Harris, John Costello, Robert Murphy, Freda Weston, Robyn Connors, Eric Jeckeln and Reginald Hambilton.

ROSTERS SUSPENDED UNTIL AFTER THE LOCKDOWN



Our Parish lies within the Traditional Country of the Darug people- The Aboriginal Custodians of our area.

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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