



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
St. Mary of The Cross Solemnity- Year B
 7th & 8th August 2021

1 Kings 17:8-16; Psalm 63; Colossians 3:12-17; Matthew 6:25-34

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

In time of darkness, we need a little window of hope

This Sunday we proudly celebrate the feast day of Saint Mary McKillop of the Cross. Her remarkable life of service has made her the first Australian Saint. As a woman she valued education and inclusion. Hence it was her dream to provide education to all children who wished to learn, regardless of their economic status. As we can imagine, such a dream could bring her troubles. It did not take long before she caught the "ire" of the hierarchy. In September 1871 Bishop Sheil of Adelaide excommunicated Mary from the Church and evicted the sisters from the convent. Eventually she and her sisters emerged as victors because they relied on God's providence. In 2010 Pope Benedict XVI elevated her to the honour of the altar through the canonization on 17 October.

Today's first reading tells the story of a woman who fed the prophet Elijah. Her work of charity not only keeps the prophet alive, but her contribution makes her co-herald of the good news as well. Her trust in God's providence gives her confidence against the fear of famine and lack of necessities. For this reason, the prophet revealed to her: "Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."

During the first six weeks of lockdown there are many worries that families are faced with: Home schooling, work, fear of job losses, mortgage, difficulty in relationship etc. Some of us surely will collapse. Then there is the question of the aftermath of the lockdown. It seems that there is no space and time for qualities that the second reading suggest: You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same.

Listen again, we are "God's chosen race". Because we belong to him, we have a future, regardless of our momentary experience of hopelessness. Hence, the letter to the Colossians emphatically underlines the richness of Christ that you make home in us: "Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you."

From this context, the Gospel reading advises us not to worry about tomorrow: "Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and how you are to clothe it. Surely life means more than food, and the body more than clothing!'"

See, we are more than our needs of the day. God knows what we need since we pray daily in the Lord's prayer: "Give us our daily bread." Let us trust in God: "Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough troubles of its own."

I would like to invite you to be calm and to let God do his work. Like the women in the first reading, let our faith sing praises to the Lord, even during this dark time: "You hear me when I call. You are my morning song. Though darkness fills the night it cannot hide the light. Whom shall I fear? You crush the enemy Underneath my feet. You are my sword and shield. Though troubles linger still, Whom shall I fear? I know who goes before me I know who stands behind. The God of angel armies is always by my side. The one who reigns forever. He is a friend of mine."

Fr. Joseph Lam, PhD STD



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 – 1.00pm
 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/_5GaNk5x4kM

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.

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

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

SAFEGUARDING: Building Safe Parishes Together

An Update from the Safeguarding Office on: Community Engagement and Education Officer

A very important part of my role is to support Parishes and their Volunteers in completing the Safeguarding Training. This is an opportunity and an obligation for us all to develop our awareness and skills in ensuring our parishes are safe and welcoming places for all those, including children and vulnerable adults, who worship alongside us.

Over the next month I hope to share more updates on the:

- Mandatory Safeguarding Modules
- Reasons why the Safeguarding Training is important
- Range of ways to access the training, and
- How to move forward with the Training

While current restrictions limit the opportunity to participate in face-to-face training, be reassured these will be re-scheduled when it is possible to do so. In the meantime, you are most welcome to engage with the online modules if you wish.

If you do have any questions about the Safeguarding Training please contact the Parish Office or email me directly at maria.kervin@parracatholic.org

I am looking forward to working with you all in ensuring that, together, we are building a safe parish for all our faith community.

Maria Kervin

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)

SUPPORT DONATIONS For PRIESTS - FIRST COLLECTION

Even though our Churches are closed, I would like to thank those who have made contributions to our priests at this time. I again include these details for your information.

For EFT to the First Collection - supporting the priests

BSB 067 950

Account No 000004265

Account Name Diocesan Clergy

Reference 6001 your name

Charismatic Healing Service - Jesus Our Healer - Sunday 15 Aug 2021 at 2:30pm.
Please contact Disciples of Jesus Community for Zoom details please ring: 0410 475 723

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PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday 8th August <i>St. Mary Of the Cross Solemnity</i>	No Mass
Monday 9th August	Office is closed
Tuesday 10th August <i>St. Lawrence</i>	<p>9.15am: Mass https://zoom.us/j/94752009643?pwd=U2IHODJVTnY5R3BReGRPQXZsTlEvdz09 Meeting ID: 947 5200 9643 Passcode: 626239</p> <p>10.30am: A Cuppa with Parish / Parishioners https://zoom.us/j/98412647179?pwd=c2ZyQklEbXliN280MjdITk11YTg2QT09 Meeting ID: 984 1264 7179 Passcode: 701544</p>
Wednesday 11th August <i>St. Clare</i>	<p>9.15am: Mass https://zoom.us/j/98099051413?pwd=NE02WjFmZGp0NVJZZCtXU2JzcHRRZz09 Meeting ID: 980 9905 1413 Passcode: 199276</p> <p>At 7.30am: Night prayers https://zoom.us/j/97996197156?pwd=SURiT1RaeTUwZk5ScTdYSU9nWjZlZlU09 Meeting ID: 979 9619 7156 Passcode: 225164</p>
Thursday 12th August	<p>7.30pm: Biblical context of the Sunday's readings https://zoom.us/j/96357594264?pwd=VW0wa2pMOUhaTi8xMWpGN1ljYTBEZz09 Meeting ID: 963 5759 4264 Passcode: 002231</p>
Friday 13th August	<p>At 7.30pm: Mass https://zoom.us/j/96340315107?pwd=cHJTTnl5OWc0OGI2a01LUkFRdVhndz09 Meeting ID: 963 4031 5107 Passcode: 813195</p>
Saturday 14th August <i>St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe</i>	<p>5.30pm Live Streaming of the Vigil Mass https://youtu.be/ZFQjiRw7A-M</p>
Sunday 15th August <i>The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	No Mass

DIocese OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

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

'The Well' offers spiritual nourishment during lockdown

Need some inspiration and spiritual encouragement during lockdown? Why not check out The Well? The Diocese's 'on demand' streaming site has a tonne of video and prayer resources for you to explore and engage with during this difficult time. Check it out on www.thewell.org.au

Join us on 'Home Ground' over the next four weeks

While in lockdown, you're invited to 'HOME Ground'. Online every weeknight for the next four weeks, join us for chat, music, prayer, hot topics and most of all – fun and connection. See the free line-up at parracatholic.org/homeground. The Diocese of Parramatta's Mission Enhancement Team look forward to seeing you on HOME Ground soon.

Fan the Flame – Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021

"Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well" *Matthew 6:25-34*
 The Church signifies and builds up the shared life of God's kingdom. This calls all members of the Church to continual conversion from self-serving egoism to self-giving love and a willingness to "bear each other's burdens" (Gal 6:2). (*Instrumentum Laboris* #83)

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/

Jamberoo Abbey online Retreat

Meet Me in the Middle—Sunday 5th September 2021

This retreat is based on Charles Peguy's Little Girl Hope from the book: "The Portal of the Mystery of Hope." Hope is both a virtue and a mystery. It is desirable yet elusive. Many dismiss it, misunderstand it, shrug it off and turn their backs on it, extolling faith and charity instead. Whilst faith and charity are absolutely critical in these times of uncertainty and fear in society, there is now a need for hope as never before since World War II.

Register on line at Jamberooabbey.org.au/retreat/online-retreat

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Marian Dickinson, 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:

Michael Cahill, William Mathew, Mark Roebuck, Maree Whitton, Anne Griffin, Marion Nardi, Norma Bardwell-Cook, Alban O'Loughlin, Thomas Byrne, Thomas Walsh, Bernardina Bruinsma James Rowe, Karl and Ute Moll.

ROSTERS SUSPENDED UNTIL AFTER THE LOCKDOWN

Mary MacKillop Prayer

(courtesy of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart)

*Ever generous God, You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop
To live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ
and constant in bringing hope and encouragement
to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.*

*With confidence in your generous providence
and through the intercession of Saint Mary MacKillop*

We ask that you grant our request

*We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit
so that we too, like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage, trust and openness.*

Ever generous God, hear our prayer.

We ask this through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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YOUTH NIGHT

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**EVERY 1ST & 3RD SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH @ 6PM**

MASS: 6PM SUPPER: 7PM
THE LOUNGE YOUTH GROUP: 7.30-8.30PM