



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year B
28th & 29th August 2021

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8; Psalm 14; St. James 1:7-18, 21-22, 27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Restless is our hearts until it finds rest in You, Lord...

The prayer above is from Augustine, the greatest Saint in the early Church. He was born in Thagaste November 354 and died in Hippo (North Africa) on 28th August 430. Augustine was highly ambitious, as he said all he wanted in his youth was to love and to be loved. We may say that he was someone who knew how to look after himself. He was a self-made person and reached the climax of his career at the imperial court of Milan where he took the office of imperial attorney general. After a tumultuous life in many aspects and intense searching for the truth, he finally was convinced that this truth is the Christian God. During the Easter vigil on 24 April 387, he was baptised by the then equally famous bishop of Milan, Ambrosius, a man of great nobility and rhetoric skill. Ambrosius was also a very pastoral leader standing firm on the word of God.

Augustine wrote a seminal work called CONFESSIONS in which he recounted the journey of his life and the grace of God that made him the humblest and yet greatest shepherd known in this time. As an ambitious lawyer, Augustine believed that the truth can be tweaked and imposed on the people. For the young Augustine truth is not given but must be invented and sold for the best possible price. Perhaps, he would make a very good lawyer in our day. One day he then realised whether anybody could have the courage to live without the Truth that is not humanly made. This question led him to an intense searching for the Truth, until he was encouraged by his friends and bishop Ambrosius to open the holy Scripture and to search there. Augustine found the random passage of Romans 13:11-14: "Let us walk decently, as in the daytime, not in partying and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensual indulgence, not in fighting and jealousy, but put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the desires of the flesh." These words of Paul have turned Augustine's life around: "My youth bubbled up and obscured and darkened my soul so far that it could not distinguish the beauty of love from the muddy darkness of lust," he remembers in his *Confessions*. The words went to his heart as an arrow from God, and St Augustine turned to Christ in 386 AD and was quite literally born again and became a great preacher, theologian and leader in the North African church.

Yet Augustine's conversion to Christianity was also an outcome of his mother Monica (her feast day is on 27th August), a woman of great faith and prayers. In the darkness of the night in the life of her son, Monica was always seen kneeling in front of the cross that can only be seen through the tiny flash of the candlelight. The fact that Monica experienced both anger towards and division from Augustine shows the power of intercessory prayer. Monica did not seek to have endless conversations with her son seeking to bring him back to the Church herself, nor did she try to shepherd him everywhere he went and force him to behave correctly. Monica instead placed her trust in God to bring Augustine back to the church. Parents especially know how difficult it can be to allow their children to fail or begin to live along a path which is ultimately immoral, as it is a natural desire to want to protect children from physical and spiritual difficulty. By her constant prayer and sacrifices, Monica showed what it meant to place all trust in God while enduring uncertainties and difficulties of many kinds.

Please continue reading on the last page



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: **N e w (02) 47426958**

Address:

46 Levy Street, Glenbrook 2773

PO Box 123 Glenbrook NSW 2773

Sacraments

Confessions: By Appointment

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/NGLQU5EZ6nA>

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, and place The Body of Christ in a position of honour in your home.

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

Safeguarding Building Safe Parishes Together

#3 Update from the Office of Safeguarding's Community Engagement and Education Officer on:

The Mandatory Safeguarding Modules...

Our Church and Parish life exists within the wider community. This means that those staff and volunteers who minister within parishes also have a very real role and responsibility in meeting the challenges and expectations given to us by government and legislation. One example that we have been used to for many years is the 'Working With Children Check'.

The Diocese of Parramatta's Safeguarding Training has been designed in response to the Children's Guardian Act (2019) which was expanded to include religious organisations and volunteer workers. Safeguarding Training will help staff and volunteers understand their role and responsibility in ensuring the dignity and safety of all people is upheld.

The Training will help parishioners:

- build knowledge of Safeguarding Principles,
- develop skills in ensuring Child Safe Standards are embedded within our ministries, and
- support understanding of how to recognise and respond to incidents of 'reportable conduct'.

At the present time Safeguarding Modules can be presented online or via zoom presentations.

The Safeguarding Office has scheduled a series of dates for zoom training of the Mandatory Modules.

The Zoom dates for Modules 1-3 are listed below:

Tuesday 12 th October	Module 1	9.30am to 10.30am
	Module 1	2.00pm to 3.00pm
Tuesday 19 th October	Module 2	9.30am to 11.00am
	Module 2	2.00pm to 3.30pm
Tuesday 26 th October	Module 3	9.30am to 11.00am
	Module 3	2.00pm to 3.30pm

Once restrictions ease there will also be opportunities for face-to-face training.

Let your Parish Office know how you would like to participate in the training. If you would like to get started the Parish Office will help you register for the upcoming Zoom training or online modules.

Maria Kervin

Community Engagement and Education Officer

Email: maria.kervin@parracatholic.org

VINNIES COMMUNITY SLEEPOUT TO HIGHLIGHT HOMELESSNESS OCCURRING AT HOME

The NSW Vinnies Community Sleepout is taking place across Western Sydney on Friday 27 August to raise essential funds for locals experiencing and at risk of homelessness.

All funds raised locally will remain in the community to assist Vinnies Support Centres in Harris Park, Blacktown and Penrith, which provide material and financial aid for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

A fellow parishioner, Dawn Willis, has contacted us and informed us that she has set up an official Vinnies page to raise funds for the Sleepout Appeal. We have greatly accepted Dawn's offer for this page to be used by the parishioners for donations to the SVDP Glenbrook Conference contribution to the NSW Vinnies Community Sleepout. Thank you, Dawn, for your generosity, dedication and IT skills in assisting our fund raising efforts. Receipts will be automatically issued by email for each donation.

Please click on the link below to access Dawn's page and make a donation to Vinnies Community Appeal.

<https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/vinnies-community-sleepout-western-sydney-2021/dawn-s-vinnies-fundraiser>

**Thank you for your ongoing support.
Glenbrook St Finbar's Conference**

We value cost and care as much as you do



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PARISH CALENDAR

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

Sunday 29th August <i>22nd Sunday in Ord Time Year B</i>	No Mass
Monday 30th August	No Mass. Office is closed
Tuesday 31st August	10.30am Cuppa with the Parishioners https://zoom.us/j/92899204954?pwd=QUZvbHZIR2Y4a0R5TWx2OFQxUWVEQT09 Meeting ID: 928 9920 4954 Passcode: 457792 12.30pm Midday Mass https://zoom.us/j/98045803030?pwd=dVhHaDZhZE5hU3N5NHVxbGVtQ2RvUT09 Meeting ID: 980 4580 3030 Passcode: 470774
Wednesday 1st September	7.00pm Rosary (Sorrowful) https://zoom.us/j/96362169014?pwd=SUlqNmJ0d2IEeCtY2VCNINxSmRxZz09 Meeting ID: 963 6216 9014 Passcode: 538993 7.30pm Info session on state of Parish finance https://zoom.us/j/94550217036?pwd=czR3V3RTcmk3VWdsdNodmNweHBFZz09 Meeting ID: 945 5021 7036 Passcode: 991768
Thursday 2nd September	12.30pm Midday Mass https://zoom.us/j/99157307063?pwd=NkIWZlVMRlcxSk1ZNEJkd0IRHEwZz09 Meeting ID: 991 5730 7063 Passcode: 791498
Friday 3rd September <i>St. Gregory the Great</i>	4.00pm Confirmation Preparation Session 3 https://zoom.us/j/92814922385?pwd=Ry82TFcxVIZtOXkrSXpOTXhsRlVsdz09 Meeting ID: 928 1492 2385 Passcode: 089990 7.30pm Mass https://zoom.us/j/96218957848?pwd=UWlJSWtVZ2lBbnlyTFTQm9nL2poQT09 Meeting ID: 962 1895 7848 Passcode: 011980
Saturday 4th September	5.30pm Live Streaming Mass https://youtu.be/fYihV2WGk3A
Sunday 5th September <i>23rd Sunday in Ord Time Year B</i>	No Mass

CARING FOR THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF OUR RETIRED PRIESTS

The Bishop's Father's Day Appeal, traditionally held on Father's Day, raises much needed funds for the Clergy Support Foundation to continue its work supporting retired clergy and those in ill health. Due to the current lockdown, the Appeal will be held via mail and online. Your thoughtful donation will mean so much to those who have put the care of others before themselves. Please give generously via the Father's Day Appeal at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or call (02) 8838 3482.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CREATION & SEASON OF CREATION

Pope Francis has designated September 1 as the *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*. Join Pope Francis and Christians around the globe in praying for and taking action for our common home on 1 September and during the Season of Creation (1 Sept – 4 Oct). For more information, resources, and activities in the Diocese of Parramatta, visit parracatholic.org/seasonofcreation

CONTRIBUTION TO THE FIRST COLLECTION WHILE IN LOCKDOWN

With the continued lockdown of our Church, you may wish to make an EFT contribution to support your Clergy, i.e. what you would normally place on the first collection.

To do, please use the following details:

BSB 067950 Account No 00004265 Account Name Diocesan Clergy Reference 6011 (followed by your name). This will enable us to credit your donation to your parish. Thank you for your contributions – they are much appreciated.

HOME GROUND FERTILITY AWARENESS

Zoom Session: 7 and 14 September

Are you looking for a new method of family planning that will empower you to understand how your body works? Join a private Zoom event at 7.30pm on Tuesday 7 September as part of our HOME Ground initiative. This session, which will be repeated on 14 September, will cover The Sympto-Thermal Method, and hear from couples that are using it. To register, please contact Catherine on catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org or call 0400 427 605.

FAN THE FLAME – TOWARDS PLENARY ASSEMBLY ONE OCTOBER 2021

"This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me." *Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23*

Unless we train ministers capable of warming people's hearts, of walking with them in the night, of dialoguing with their hopes and disappointments, of mending their brokenness, what hope can we have for our present and future journey? (Pope Francis, *Meeting with the Bishops of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro*, 28 July 2013)

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Rev. Max Barrett (CSSR) (Jim Barrett's Brother), 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:

Chris Paine, Colleen McHardy, Margaret Stevens, Lyn Beltran, Christine McGillion, Ryder Lopez, Margaret Christensen, Joan Paine, Mark Bates, Lyn Downes, Reg Moore, Ellen Moffitt, Terry Stevens, Jacqui Visser, Joanne Macrae, Sophie Hollies, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Maddison Farrugia, Colleen Nolan, Pam Clyne and Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Margaret Smith, Angela Plevy, Yvonne Price, Elizabeth Sefton, Les McDermott, Willy Boere, Andrew Wiecek, Ellen Fall, Maria Pay and Richard Nagle.

ROSTERS SUSPENDED UNTIL AFTER THE LOCKDOWN

Father Joe's Musings—Continued from Page 1

"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You." Restlessness is that desire to be filled and fulfilled. We all have it. We try to ignore at times, but still it remains. We Augustinians believe that it can direct us to God.

Are you restless? Are you searching? Do you have the desire to live in a community of friends that is Christ-centered? Do you have the desire to bring that very same desire to others?

Restlessness is a key aspect to our life together, igniting our common search for God through our prayer, community life, and ministry.

Fr Joe



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:

Emergency Aid for Haiti. Aid to the Church in Need (ACN International) has expressed its solidarity in prayer with Haiti and immediately approved an emergency aid package of half a million Euros (\$800,000 AUD) for the Haitian people. In response to this, ACN Australia has set up an emergency appeal to provide help for our brothers and sisters in Haiti who are going through a very hard time. To donate visit www.aidtochurch.org/haiti

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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