



# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year B  
2nd & 3rd October 2021

Genesis 2:18-24; Psalm 127; Hebrews 2:9-11; Mark 10:2-16

BY GERARD EGAN, SECRETARY OF DEANERY PASTORAL COUNCIL

## PARISH INFORMATION

The first Assembly of the Plenary Council of Australia meets this weekend.

Over the last two years the Listening and Dialogue phase was completed, and key subject areas emerged. From those came the National Themes for Discernment. The Australian Church was asked to consider them from a local and national perspective. The Council then developed its six Agenda items – Conversion, Prayer, Formation, Structures, Governance and Institutions.

During the past few months Parramatta Diocese invited responses from Deaneries and parishes to those Agenda items. The responses were distilled into an Executive Summary.

In hindsight, the Plenary Council's Agenda might appear to lack the richness, depth and breadth of the original Themes. Paul Collins, in an opinion piece in the SMH on 29 September, noted that “...the Agenda... doesn't reflect the concerns and questions expressed in the consultations, but replaces them with vague and frustratingly generalised concepts”. That language doesn't encourage discussion of the practical questions the Church faces. In comparison, the responses by Parramatta Deaneries and parishes are rich, analytical and particular. They offer issues that we can easily grasp and act upon.

Covid coinciding with the Plenary may have been fortuitous – we are connecting with more people in ways not thought of before. We build community through apps, and Zoom (prayer groups, reflections, Masses, adult education...). We are doing this in parishes, Deaneries and Diocese.

St Finbars had to halt its discussions in June because of Covid, but since it looks like restrictions will be lifted early October, we could revisit the practical ideas and suggestions around the two themes we were concentrating on:

Building Community within our Parish  
Ongoing formation of Individual and Parish

In the end, to extract something concrete from the Plenary to the benefit of our parishes, we want to put into action things which connect to the Agenda, but which are implementable for us.

Using the Agenda items, I was asked what issues could be highlighted for our parish/Deanery?

*Please continue reading on the 4th page*

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Confessions: By Appointment

Baptisms: By Appointment

Weddings: By Appointment

**Web:**

www.stfinbars.org.au

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Glenbrook Catholic  
Church St Finbars

**Parish School:** Principal

Mrs Robyn Clarke

Phone: 4724 3600

**Daylight Saving starts this Sunday morning, please remember to put your clocks forward one hour.**

## **5.30PM VIGIL MASS LIVE STREAMING LINK**

<https://youtu.be/PIKefC-BnxY>

Fr Joe will be available in the church 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.*

## GLENBROOK PARISH – ROADMAP OUT OF COVID-19

In line with the NSW Government's plan to progressively re-open the state once vaccine levels have reached satisfactory levels, our parish has also developed a provisional plan to resume weekend Masses for all parishioners at the normal times, once it is deemed safe to do so. According to the advice by Bishop Vincent, a satisfactory level is achieved at 80% of state-wide double dose vaccination. When NSW reaches 80% double vaccination (estimated to be **18 or 25 Oct**), places of worship will be open to **everyone**, including partially and unvaccinated people.

The parish hopes to resume weekend Masses on the **weekend of 22/23 October**, provided the double vaccinated rate is over 80%.

Currently our 2773 postcode vaccination levels sit at over 90% of those over 16 years of age with at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and between 70-79% who are double vaccinated (Source: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/find-the-facts-about-covid-19>).

The re-opening can only occur if all parishioners *are respectful of everyone else*, and masks are worn, social distancing is observed, and you register your presence.

**All parishioners are encouraged to get vaccinated to ensure the continuing good health of all in the parish, especially if you are part liturgical ministry, such as special ministers of the Holy Communion, readers, musicians, or altar ministers.** If you have any concerns about getting vaccinated, please consult your medical practitioner.

To allow everyone to feel comfortable attending Mass, we plan to have all doors opened and all outside speakers turned on so that you can sit in additional places outside if that is your preference. We will arrange to bring Holy Communion to all sitting outside.

We intend to continue with the Mass live-streaming until the time when our church can **fully reopen**. However, this service depends on our team's ability to control the noise factor in the church that results from the coming and going of parishioners during the live-streamed Mass.

Parish groups can gather again in parish facilities once we have achieved 80% of double doses of vaccination.

It is important that all parishioners must comply COVID Safe measures:

85 adults can sit inside the church (1 per 4 sqm), without counting children under 12 years

Preferably, families ought to sit together, leaving at least one row in between.

Masks must be worn at all times indoors and all must use hand sanitizers at the entry to the church.

Signing upon arrival till places are filled.

Congregational singing is not permitted at this point of time.

Please find below, a summary of the NSW Roadmap for your information

NSW road map to freedom			
	70% vaccinated (Oct 11)	80% vaccinated (Oct 18 or 25)	Dec 1
Visitors to home	Max 5	Max 10	No limit
Outdoor gatherings	Max 20	Max 20	No limit
Organised events	No	Max 200	COVID-safe plan required for 1000+
Ticketed & seated events	No	Max 500	NA
Hospitality	1 per 4sq m inside & 1 per 2sq m outside	1 per 4sq m inside & 1 per 2sq m outside, max 20 per group	1 per 2sq m
Retail	1 per 4sq m	1 per 4sq m	1 per 2sq m
Hairdressers, nail salons	1 per 4sq m, max 5	1 per 4sq m	1 per 2sq m
Gyms	1 per 4sq m, max 20 per class	1 per 4sq m, max 20 for classes	1 per 2sq m
Stadiums*	1 per 4sq m, max 5000	1 per 4sq m, max 5000	1 per 2sq m
Cinemas**	1 per 4sq m or max 75% seated	1 per 4sq m or max 75% seated	1 per 2sq m
Libraries***	1 per 4sq m or max 75% seated	1 per 4sq m	1 per 2sq m
Nightclubs	Closed	Closed	1 per 4sq m
Weddings	Max 50	1 per 4sq m, max 5 unvaccinated	1 per 2sq m
Funerals	Max 50	1 per 4sq m, max 10 unvaccinated	1 per 2sq m
Worship	1 per 4sq m, no singing	1 per 4sq m, no singing	1 per 2sq m
Work from home	All (if reasonably practicable)	Vaccinated can return	At employer's discretion
Travel	No intrastate travel	Unlimited in NSW	Unlimited in NSW
Masks	Mandatory indoors & for hospitality workers outside	Mandatory indoors, except under-12s	Mandatory on public transport & for hospitality workers

\* Inc racecourses, theme parks & zoos. \*\* Inc theatres & music halls.  
\*\*\* Inc galleries & museums

SOURCE: NSW GOVT, FINANCIAL REVIEW

If you have any serious concerns, or have any other suggestions to assist our re-opening, please email Fr Joe at [joseph.lam@parracatholic.org](mailto:joseph.lam@parracatholic.org).



**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD STL**  
Bishop of Parramatta

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🌐 [parracatholic.org](http://parracatholic.org)

## **Pastoral letter to all clergy in the Diocese of Parramatta on the reopening of churches for public worship**

Dear brothers,

As you are all aware the result of the vaccination program across the State is going to lead to a lessening of restrictions in a phased manner between 11 October and 1 December. The NSW Government have indicated that when 70% of the population has received their full vaccination that places of worship can reopen, but only for those who are fully vaccinated.

Discussion amongst the Bishops in the Province and more broadly across the country has led me to the conclusion that it would be counterproductive to reopen our places of worship only to the vaccinated. Whilst Pope Francis and other Church leaders have stressed the importance of being vaccinated for the common good of all, the Church also respects those who choose not to be vaccinated.

Therefore, I have determined that we should wait until the 80% threshold has been achieved before we reopen our Churches as this would then permit all Catholics to attend regardless of vaccination status. The projection is that this is likely sometime towards the end of October. The People of God have along with the rest of the community been deprived of many of the liberties and ability to participate in a range of activities that give meaning and purpose to their lives. It is to the core of our ministry that we resume our pastoral care of the people as soon as that is practicable.

Admission to both hospitals and aged care facilities to minister pastorally to patients and residents will require that clergy are vaccinated. As this ministry is at the heart of the Gospel, I would encourage all clergy if they have not already been vaccinated to arrange to do so as soon as possible.

Once a date has been finalised by the NSW Government as to when 80% fully vaccinated has been achieved an advice to reopen will come from the Chancery.

**With my prayers for you and the communities you serve,**

**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv**

**Bishop of Parramatta Given at Parramatta**

**on 29 September 2021**

**The Feast of Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Archangels**

*Continued from the 1st page*

**Conversion:** The issue most widely discussed within and across all 28 dioceses was ‘*greater inclusion for all*’, which, for respondents, meant greater inclusion for persons of all sexual preferences and genders, for marginalized persons, refugees, migrants, disabled persons, and poor persons, as well as a rethinking of church attitudes to relationships (e.g. same-sex) and moral issues (e.g. contraception, premarital sex, divorce). The Diocese is working on an Inclusion statement for those who are felt to be on the margins of our church community (LGBTQI+, divorced...). Contribute to those discussions.

**Prayer:** What options are there for spiritual direction? Small group prayer experiences, praying with others in smaller groups is important, encouraging and energising us for mission.

**Formation:** Provide opportunities for the faithful and the clergy to have ongoing faith formation at the local level. Fr Joe’s Theology sessions are available Deanery-wide.

We all need to face up to and openly discuss the problem of Clericalism, both clergy and laity. It is elitist and very damaging to the whole Church community. And the common experience of "walking together" as a synodal Church is also presented as a remedy for clericalism.

**Structures:** Family centred, dynamic and experiential Sacramental preparation on a Deanery-wide basis, to incorporate the strengths/talents of various parishes. Small groups for both parents and families are the best way to model community during Sacramental preparation. These are unique opportunities to build active and enthusiastic disciples of Jesus not just with the children but also with their parents.

Proceed with the *Gathering of Talents* workshop in early 2022.

**Governance:** Synodality is an attitude of mind and heart, with the conviction that the spirit is given to each member of the Church, so that each has the gift and responsibility to contribute to the lived understanding of faith and to share the gospel. The key enabling synodal institution, the pastoral council, is disappointing and patchy in Australia. Few dioceses have diocesan pastoral councils. And parish councils to have an authority, with a co-responsibility for a parish; they should not be merely advisory. We are fortunate in our diocese to have the three levels of pastoral councils that strive to work together.

Synodality is hard work. It is also a work in progress and far from a finished product, yet the future of the church in Australia depends upon its successful adoption. The Pope said “a synodal Church is one which listens, which realises that listening is more than simple hearing. It is a mutual listening in which everyone has something to learn”. In recognising that “we are all equal through the baptism in Christ” there will be a flow on in our communities.

**Institutions:** Have schools adopt a cause in the local community and enable students to have the opportunity to devise ways, means and actions to be Christ-like. Commit to shared programs between school and parish that effectively evangelise the whole family.

*“Give us ears to listen humbly to each other, and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying”* (Pope Francis). *“The only task worthy of our efforts is to construct the future”* (Teilhard de Chardin). The hope is that this historic once-in-a-generation Plenary Council may be an expression of such efforts.

### **Thank you**

**Thank you to Father Joe, for bringing Holy Communion to Parishioners around the “BLUFF” area.**

**To the “faivies”, who provide delicious slices and cakes, which we all enjoy.**

**To the ever faithful “Gnomes” (Trish and Kieran)  
who come on a long walk to deliver the “Barra”.**

**May God Bless and Keep you all, always.**

***Beryl & Stan Callaghan***



# PARISH CALENDAR

<b>Sunday</b> <b>3rd October</b> <i>27th Sunday in Ord</i> <i>Time Year B</i>	<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Monday</b> <b>4th October</b> <i>St Francis of Assisi</i>	<b>No Mass. Office is closed</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>5th October</b>	<b>12.30pm Mass</b> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/91405577054?pwd=MXMQSDEOTzIzNWZmNlhmeiYySEwIQTO9">https://zoom.us/j/91405577054?</a> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/91405577054?pwd=MXMQSDEOTzIzNWZmNlhmeiYySEwIQTO9">pwd=MXMQSDEOTzIzNWZmNlhmeiYySEwIQTO9</a> Meeting ID: 914 0557 7054 Passcode: 728662
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>6th October</b>	<b>12.30pm Mass</b> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96765043798?pwd=SkNCU2pzZWZLak8rUVR6ZXZTcGVDUT09">https://zoom.us/j/96765043798?</a> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96765043798?pwd=SkNCU2pzZWZLak8rUVR6ZXZTcGVDUT09">pwd=SkNCU2pzZWZLak8rUVR6ZXZTcGVDUT09</a> Meeting ID: 967 6504 3798 Passcode: 458988 <b>7.30pm Rosary</b> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/92608563793?pwd=eGhEL2tMRXh0LOZQNmw5bCtGeitOdz09">https://zoom.us/j/92608563793?</a> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/92608563793?pwd=eGhEL2tMRXh0LOZQNmw5bCtGeitOdz09">pwd=eGhEL2tMRXh0LOZQNmw5bCtGeitOdz09</a> Meeting ID: 926 0856 3793 Passcode: 892639
<b>Thursday</b> <b>7th October</b> <i>Our Lady of the</i> <i>Rosary</i>	<b>12.30pm Mass</b> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96792627359?pwd=SmYyZ2ZLZ2VXZG9YRVdoOVZtRWtFdz09">https://zoom.us/j/96792627359?</a> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96792627359?pwd=SmYyZ2ZLZ2VXZG9YRVdoOVZtRWtFdz09">pwd=SmYyZ2ZLZ2VXZG9YRVdoOVZtRWtFdz09</a> Meeting ID: 967 9262 7359 Passcode: 369705
<b>Friday</b> <b>8th October</b>	<b>12.30pm Mass</b> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/92689997645?pwd=MFO2VVdDNkRvNWU1Yk00TnlFRmFqUT09">https://zoom.us/j/92689997645?</a> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/92689997645?pwd=MFO2VVdDNkRvNWU1Yk00TnlFRmFqUT09">pwd=MFO2VVdDNkRvNWU1Yk00TnlFRmFqUT09</a> Meeting ID: 926 8999 7645 Passcode: 408375
<b>Saturday</b> <b>9th October</b>	<b>5.30pm Live Streaming Mass</b> <a href="https://youtu.be/ipy9RZyqml8">https://youtu.be/ipy9RZyqml8</a>
<b>Sunday</b> <b>10th October</b> <i>28th Sunday in Ord</i> <i>Time Year B</i>	<b>No Mass</b>

# DIocese of Parramatta Notices

## JOIN BISHOP VINCENT AT MASS FOR THE OPENING OF THE PLENARY COUNCIL

On Sunday 3 October at 11am AEDT, you are invited to join Bishop Vincent as he celebrates a Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit for the Plenary Council from St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Watch the Mass live on the St Patrick's Cathedral Facebook and YouTube channels.

The official opening Mass for the Plenary Council will be celebrated by Archbishop Tim Costelloe SDB from St Mary's Cathedral, Perth at 2pm AEDT. Watch the opening Mass via [plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1](https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1)  
**TUNE IN DAILY TO THE SESSIONS OF THE PLENARY COUNCIL**

As the First Assembly of the Plenary Council gets underway on 3 October, you can tune in from home as the almost 300 Members of the Plenary Council discern the future of the Australian Church. The Plenary Council is providing livestreamed Daily Masses from 9.30am AEDT and access to the Plenary session livestreams from 11am AEDT. To find out more and to tune in to the daily sessions, please visit

[plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1](https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1)

## **POSITIONS VACANT:**

- Human Resources Partner – Catholic Diocese of Parramatta Services Limited, Diocese of Parramatta
- Human Resources Manager – Catholic Diocese of Parramatta Services Limited, Diocese of Parramatta
- Digital Content Creator – Diocese of Parramatta –

**Applications close 10pm Monday 4 October**

More details at: [parracatholic.org/employment](https://parracatholic.org/employment)

## **CATHOLIC OUTLOOK BOOK GIVEAWAY**

You have a chance to win one of three copies of "Opening Doors: A Seeker's Reflections on the Rooms of Christian Living" by Kevin Treston. 'Opening Doors' has been described 'an easy read that asks hard questions', designed to help us create a better life and a better world. Entries are now open until Monday 11 October. Enter today via [catholicoutlook.org](https://catholicoutlook.org) and fill out the form under 'Book Giveaway'.

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### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Valarie Goodridge (Jim Tierney's sister), 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, Michael McMahon (Peter's brother) and Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson).

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:**

Vincent Flynn, Kelvin Lawrence, Olive Power, Bernard Graham, Eugenia Bojec, Margaret Oxford, Stanislaus Lynch, Norman Bell, Phil Fehon, John McGregor, John Pain, Michelle Kerzinger, Ingrid Frank, Patrick Fitzgerald, Frederick Pay, Harry Harris, Betty Smith, Olive Dickinson, Jeffrey Hunt, Imelda Critchley, Frank O'Hare, Maria Obbens and Kenneth Glover.

**PROVISIONAL ROSTER FOR 9TH & 10TH OCTOBER**  
**NOTE THAT THIS ROSTER WILL NOT BE IN FORCE UNLESS**  
**THE GOVERNMENT ALLOWS CHURCHES TO RE-OPEN BY THIS DATE**

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Anaru Veitch	Peter McMahon	Deb Lawrence
Senior Server	Anaru Veitch	Peter McMahon	Garry Pursehouse
Junior Server	Alex & Johnny McLoughlin	Joshua & Lucy Toutounji	Emily Dowling & Sophie McDonald
Warden	Ken Schneiders	Volunteer Please	Patricia Murnane
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Eileen Jones	Ann Keating	Irene Aligno
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Allan Jones	Elizabeth Konzo	Kristina Rajnoch
Intercession	Dawn Willis	John Isaksen	Yvonne Scanlan
Gifts	Allan & Eileen Jones	Volunteers Please	Dorothea Walsh
Communion	Margaret Richards	Gwen Cullinan	Gerard Egan
Cashiers	Joe Grange		
Children's Liturgy	Carolyn		
Piety Stall	Beth Culliver		
Hospitality	Daren & Liz Dukes, Anne King & Lynne Atkinson		
Garden Club	Lukas Rajnoch, Andrew Howard, Stuart Sheary & Daniel Lynch		



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