



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
31st Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year B
30th & 31st October 2021

Deuteronomy 6:2-6; Psalm 17; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 12:28-34

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

"To bury the Dead and to comfort the Living"

Traditionally, the Church commemorates on the first two days of November those who have died during the last year. At the same time, the Church also recalls the final purpose of death, namely that the dead through their baptism are members of the Communion of the Saints.

In the Book of Wisdom, also called the Book of Sirach, the author addresses this prayer to God: "Give graciously to all the living and withhold not kindness from the dead" (Sir 7:33). Since the earliest time, the burial of the dead and the offering of prayers as means of comfort for living are two important works of mercy. The other six corporal works of mercy are taken from the famous parable of the Last Judgment, in which people are saved or condemned because of how they treated the hungry, the thirsty, the imprisoned, and so on (Mt 25:21-46). This work is inspired by the Old Testament figure Tobit, who buried the dead at the risk of his own life.

In one sense, these works of mercy we perform without thinking. When someone we know dies, we want to pay our respects by visiting the funeral home or attending their funeral. We even go to funerals of people we do not know well if they happen to be close to people who are dear to us. This is a gracious gesture and offers great consolation to the family of the bereaved. If the person is known to us, the funeral is a time to express our own sorrow and share memories with others. Such actions are a part of every culture and religious tradition.

But this work of mercy also challenges us to reflect on the Christian understanding of death, and thus how we bury the dead. In the *Creed* we profess that we believe in the resurrection of the body, and that fundamental truth shapes our rich Catholic tradition of funeral rites. We read in the *Catechism*: "The bodies of the dead must be treated with respect and charity, in faith and hope of the Resurrection. The burial of the dead is a corporal work of mercy; it honours the children of God, who are temples of the Holy Spirit" (CCC 2300).

The fact that we see this to be a "corporal" work of mercy flies in the face of the culture around us. Our modern society seems schizophrenic when it comes to the body. On the one hand, we are fitness-conscious, and we spend much energy and money on being in shape and looking young and healthy. But then, at death, the body becomes at best an inconvenience and at worst an embarrassment, something to be discretely gotten out of the way. The funeral then simply becomes an occasion to remember the deceased.

How powerful and consoling, by contrast, are our Catholic funeral rites! They speak eloquently of the pain of loss, faith in the Resurrection, the hope of eternal life mingled with prayers to assist the departed on their final journey, and the sacramental life which plunges us, body and soul, into the death and resurrection of Christ.

Here, I would like to take this opportunity extend my prayers to all who have lost and are still mourning the loss of their loved ones. Grief is a long process. I can only pray that the hope in the Resurrection will provide some healing. May I also thank all those who have offered their time to visit, to care for and to accompany the dying and their grieving families during the time of sickness and challenges.

Fr Joe

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 – 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: 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/HHvGhQfB_5o

Hosts are no longer available to take home.

SUNDAY BAPTISMS:

The Parish joyfully announces the Baptism of Sebastien Henri

Young who is going to be Baptised after Mass this Sunday, and warmly welcomes him into our Faith Community.



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.

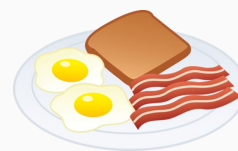
PARISH CALENDAR

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

Sunday 31st October <i>31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Baptisms
Monday 1st November <i>All Saints</i>	No Mass. Office is closed 7.00pm All Saints Mass
Tuesday 2nd November <i>All Souls' Day</i>	9.15am Mass 10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C 7.00pm All Souls Mass
Wednesday 3rd November	9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 3.00pm SFNC NetSetGo Clinic 7.30pm Rosary Via Zoom https://zoom.us/j/97589753258?pwd=amRZMj9jWW5iVmVVMFJQKzFtcM82dz09 Meeting ID: 975 8975 3258 Passcode: 001266
Thursday 4th November <i>St Charles Borromeo</i>	9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bridge Club 7.30pm Blue Mountains Folk Dance P/C
Friday 5th November	9.15am Mass 10.30am First Friday Visits 1.00pm Bowlers P/C 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice
Saturday 6th November	No Morning Mass 11.30am Te Deum's Choir Practice 3.45pm Communion Preparation Sessions via Zoom 4.30pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass Live Streaming Link https://youtu.be/cNxMNCKQpJQ
Sunday 7th November <i>32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 2.00pm St. Andrews Uniting Church Service 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm "The Lounge" Youth Group P/C

EXCITING NEWS

ST FINBARS MENS BREAKFAST



Date - Saturday 13th November 2021

Time - 7:30 am – 9:00 am

Venue - Parish hall

The parish is holding another Men's breakfast as an opportunity for parishioners and the community to meet and get to know one another. This invitation is open to all male parishioners and any of their sons, grandsons, neighbours and friends.

For catering purposes we will need to confirm numbers by Sunday 7th November 2021. Please add your name to the list on the warden's table.

Any questions please contact the organisers,
Carl Moll 0417 471 137 or
John De Mattia 4739 6775

BLESSED—DAILY ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS 2021

Advent is edging closer and *Catholic Diocese of Wollongong* prepared **Blessed** a 92-page pocket-size book containing short spiritually rich, yet accessible, daily reflections from the beginning of Advent (28 November 2021) through to the Baptism of the Lord (9 January 2022).

We can order this little book for interested parishioners as a bulk order. It cost \$ 4.40. We have to order books very soon before they all sell out. If you are interested please call Mila Svehla on 47391470 or Juliana on 47426958

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:



Aid to the Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

Would you consider becoming an ACN parish representative and volunteering to help ACN tell more Australians about the suffering Church? If you are interested in representing ACN in your local parish, please call 1800 101 201 or email cecilia@aidtochurch.org.

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

BEING IN TOUCH WITH GOD THROUGH CREATION



CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Some of the stories in this week's edition are:

- **Hold the line!** Archbishop urges NSW to stay strong on anti-slavery law
- **Barron Down Under:** Don't miss out on this unique experience open to all
- **Kristina Keneally:** Faith's no barrier to politics
- **Hayden Ramsay:** The new normal? The challenges in working from home permanently
- **Domestic Church:** Maronite faith in the home
- **Justice for refugees**



Positions Vacant:

- Human Resources Partner – Catholic Diocese of Parramatta Services Limited, Diocese of Parramatta

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

Diocese of Parramatta COVID-19 update

As NSW reaches its 80% double dose vaccination target, parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are opening their doors for private prayer, Reconciliation and for the celebration of Mass and sacraments such as baptisms, weddings and funerals. Please contact your local parish to check Mass and liturgy times and the COVID-Safe arrangements in place.

Livestreamed Masses from across the Diocese of Parramatta are still available on the Diocesan website <https://www.parracatholic.org/covid19/#online>. For more information, please visit the Diocesan website www.parracatholic.org/covid19

Diocese of Parramatta launches Plenary Council resource website

A new website provides resources for parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta to stay involved in the Plenary Council, which is exploring what the future of our Church should look like. Beyond the First Assembly of the Plenary Council, visit parracatholic.org/plenary-2021/ to find a range of information, a Diocesan prayer and more as we move into a time of prayer, reflection, maturation and development.

Office for Safeguarding offering online training to keep our parishes safe

The Office for Safeguarding is providing an opportunity for all of us to develop our awareness and skills in ensuring our parishes are safe and welcoming places for all. The team are currently offering accompanied online training courses throughout October and November. If you are interested or have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email the Diocesan Safeguarding office on safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org or maria.kervin@parracatholic.org.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Roger Hunt (Julie-Ann McLoughlin's Father), Dirkje Vleeskens, Valarie Goodridge (Jim Tierney's sister), Rev. Max Barrett (CSSR) (Jim Barrett's Brother), Marian Dickinson, Anton Goosen (Gideon's brother) and Roberto Di Nucci.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Sybil Mason, 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:

Anna Vella, Virginia Criswick, Charlie Psaila, Richard Formosa, Alice Cleary, Julie Young, Scott Blondahl, Kathleen Grange, Marjorie Gormly, Ian Robinson, Gerard Vandeweyer, Julia Barakat, Andrew Pallett, Patricia Hazelton, Rose Hannigan, Genevieve Donnelly, Elizabeth Rynne and Agnes Gregory.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 6TH & 7TH NOVEMBER 2021

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Marie Hurley	Carl Moll	Gerard Egan
Senior Server	Peter McMahon	Carl Moll	Volunteer please
Junior Server			
Warden	Vince Dobson & Allan Jones	Volunteer Please	Steve Newton
1 st Reading	Beth Culliver	John De Mattia	Pearse Cremin
2 nd Reading	Eileen Jones	John Killeen	Amanda Moore
Intercession	Maureen Tulk	Elizabeth Konza	Steve Newton
IT Operators	Eleanor Thompson	Elizabeth Konza	Pat Watson
Gifts	Noreen Taylor & Janice Smith	Volunteers Please	The Wilson Family
Communion	John Verhoeven	John Killeen	Garry Purchasehouse
Cashiers	Joe Grange		
Children's Liturgy	Melissa		
Piety Stall	Carmel Higgins		
Church Care			
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek & Vicky Ang		
Garden Club	Kevin Debeck, Rob Lennon, Michael Lloyd & John Killeen		



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