

The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST-KING OF THE UNIVERSE

20th & 21st November 2021

Daniel 7:13-14; Psalm 92; Apocalypse 1:5-8; John 18:33-37

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Fr Joe has been away on his annual retreat this week, and we hope he returns to us spiritually nourished and ready to work with us as together we guide the parish into the season of Advent and towards the great feast of Christmas.

Deacon Andrew will be away on his retreat next week.

The parish has arranged a retreat for parishioners on Saturday 4th December from 10:30am to 4pm. It is recommended that you take the opportunity to spend a few hours in prayer on this day as part of your own spiritual nourishment, and as a means of preparing for the Christmas season.

Bookings are needed so we can cater for you – just phone or email the parish office to book.

This weekend is the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. This feast celebrates Christ's reign over the human race. It also celebrates God's ultimate forgiveness of our sins and emphasises Christ's final sovereignty over all creation. It is also the last Sunday in the church's year. The following weekend the prayers and readings of year C commence with the first Sunday of Advent.

About 60 young people will make their first Holy Communion during special Masses that will be celebrated over the next two weeks. The sacrament of the Eucharist is one of the sacraments of initiation (along with Baptism and Confirmation) and is the sacrament that nourishes Christ's followers with His body and blood – "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood will live forever" (John 6:54). Let us all as a parish community pray for these children on this very special day in their lives.

The Parish Finance Committee meets during the coming week to monitor the state of the parish finances and to advise Fr Joe on matters relating to the temporal needs of the parish. This is the final meeting of this committee for 2021. You can assist the parish by making sure your envelopes are up to date (there are still some envelope packs waiting to be picked up from the narthex in the church).

The parish thanks all those parishioners who have continued their financial support during COVID, and if you want to continue using electronic means to contribute, that is fine – just make sure your name is included.

Peter McMahon

COLLEEN MCHARDY'S MEMORIAL MASS

Dear parishioners of St Finbar's, thank you for the outpouring of love for our dear mother Colleen. A memorial service will be held at 10 am on Wednesday 24th November at the Church. Please note that seats will be limited and we ask that you allow time for family and friends to be seated in the church. There will be a live stream at the following link: https://youtu.be/wjevxmR--U4

In lieu of flowers Mum requested that donations be made to a local charity that feeds the homeless: https://mamalanas.org.au/donating

Alternatively please purchase a plant/tree for your garden that will remind you of Mum into the future.

One last thing we would love to fill the church with colour, to remind us of the joy Mum brought to so many, so please wear your most colourful clothing. With abundant thanks for our incredible Mum.

Ann-Maree, Karen and Peter.

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

0404 010 997 Phone:

Office Hours: 9.30am – 3.00pm

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: Saturdays 4.30 - 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

SUNDAY RITE OF WELCOME

The Parish joyfully welcomes Addison

Nicole Scott and

Elizabeth Goddard into our Faith Community. They are going to be Baptised at our Parish next weekend. May God bless them both.

5.30PM VIGIL MASS LIVE STREAMING LINK

https://youtu.be/Ea vJnW3Dz0

Hosts are no longer available to take home.

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

	PARISH CALENDAR	S
Sunday 21st November Our Lard Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm "The Lounge" Youth Group P/C	E A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
Monday 22nd November <i>St Cecilia</i>	No Mass. Office is closed 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R	
Tuesday 23rd November	9.15am Mass 10.00am Carer's Week Event P/C 5.30pm 1st Holy Communion Group 1 7.30pm BMNC AGM P/C 7.30pm Parish Finance Committee Meeting M/R	f F
Wednesday 24th November Sts Andrew	9.15am No Mass Colleen McHardy's Memorial Mass Available via YouTube	
Dung-Lac & Companions	Link: https://youtu.be/wjevxmRU4 5.30pm 1st Holy Communion Group 2 7.00pm Bridge P/C 7.30pm Rosary Via Zoom https://zoom.us/j/97589753258? pwd=amRZMi9jWW5iTmVVMFJQKzFtcm82dz09 Meeting ID: 975 8975 3258 Passcode: 001266	B w b h E
Thursday 25th November	9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bridge P/C 5.30pm 1st Holy Communion Group 3 7.30pm Blue Mountains Folk Dance P/C	
Friday 26th November	9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bowlers P/C 7.00pm Introduction to Theology https://zoom.us/j/91854370682? pwd=bkljMUg3UIJpRHB5aktZaXgv0Eh6QT09 Meeting ID: 918 5437 0682 Passcode: 713522	
Saturday 27th November	9.15am Mass 11.30am Te Deum's Choir Practice 4.45pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass Live Streaming Link https://youtu.be/2dfctbaqefl	
Sunday 28th November Ist Sunday of Advent Year C	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Baptisms	

AVRIL LLEWELLYN THANK YOU AND FAREWELL MORNING TEA SUNDAY 5TH OF DECEMBER AFTER THE 9.30AM MASS

Please join us as we say thank you and farewell to Avril Llewellyn for all her help and support as she and her husband are moving to Bathurst in December.

CHRISTMAS CARDS:

Religious Christmas Cards are available for sale from the Warden's table or the Parish Office. A Pack of 8 cards for \$5. If you like to buy some please contact the Parish Office on 47398928.

ADVENT 2021 WITH BRUCE DOWNES, THE CATHOLIC GUY

You are invited to 'Expect the Unexpected' this Advent. Join me each day for a short, free Advent Daily Devotional Video that will guide you on a life-changing journey. Starting November 28th you'll receive short inspirational videos each day from Bruce Downes, full of real life stories and practical ways to become all that God has created you to be! Register now or for more information: https://brucedownes.org/registerforadvent/
Email: info@brucedownes.org

2022 RELIGIOUS CALENDARS

Franciscan & Columban calendars now on sale at the Wardens' table at \$6 Franciscan and \$10 Columban. Proceeds got to St Vincent de Paul Society.





Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal





ST FINBAR'S GLENBROOK LOCAL PLENARY REVIEW

Background

At the end of 2019 over 70 parishioners participated in group discussions focusing on what we can do at a local level to enrich our parish. There were 7 groups in total and following their meetings each group presented 3 themes.

In total there were 21 themes. A representative of each group formed another group to see if there were common themes and if they could be consolidated into a smaller number.

Over a series of further meetings the number of themes was able to be consolidated into 6 themes:

- Theme 1: Outreach Outside the church
- Theme 2: Building Community within our parish
- Theme 3: Ongoing formation of individual and parish
- Theme 4: Prayerful and Eucharistic
- Theme 5: Shared decision making, structure and roles within our parish
- Theme 6: A strong voice for justice in our community

During the meetings parishioners also provided feedback on practical ways in which the themes could be implemented into our parish.

Due to COVID-19 the process had to be put on hold for 2020, resuming in 2021.

Whilst it would be great to address all themes, this will have to occur over time, given resource availability. Therefore, initially understanding where the most enthusiasm lies, will allow identification of which theme(s) to focus on first. During March 2021 parishioners were invited to place green dots on the Theme or Themes they would like to see progressed first.

Overall, 137 dots were placed with the following results:

- Theme 2: Building Community within our parish (45 Dots)
- Theme 3: Ongoing formation of individual and parish (34 Dots)
- Theme 1: Outreach Outside the church (17 Dots)
- Theme 6: A strong voice for justice in our community (16 Dots)
- Theme 5: Shared decision making, structure and roles within our parish (14 Dots)
- Theme 4: Prayerful and Eucharistic (11 Dots)

Themes 2 and 3 stood out as receiving the most support.

Further develop practical ideas for Themes 2 & 3

COVID-19 unfortunately put a further hold on the process for a few months, however recently a representative group of parishioners came together to further review the practical ideas for:

- Theme 2: Building Community within our parish
- Theme 3: Ongoing formation of individual and parish

And to add timelines for when these initiatives may be able to be implemented:

- 1. Within 3 months
- 2. 3 months 12 months
- 1 6 years

Next Steps:

To invite parishioners after each of the Masses on the 4^{th} / 5^{th} December, 2021 to visit the parish hall and nominate 3 practical ideas from each theme they would like to see implemented. Parishioners will be asked to fill out a form for each theme with their 3 chosen ideas.

For those parishioners unable to attend there will be the option to complete this online.

Over the next few pages you will see the practical ideas for each theme.

We encourage you to take some time to think about the practical ideas that together we can implement as a parish.

THEME 2: BUILDING COMMUNITY WITHIN OUR PARISH

Practical ideas suggestions

<u>0 - 3 Months</u>

- 1) Provide personal invitations to individuals / groups to participate in events e.g. Cultural Days.
- 2) Create ways to come together to express, celebrate and grow in our faith, in ongoing formats. Could include pilgrimages; retreats; guest speakers; Theology on Tap at the Lapstone Hotel; GCYF Glenbrook Catholic Youth Festival!; coming together after Mass for talks (social and spiritual) or chats about the Gospel; praying together after Mass; small group gatherings Advent groups, prayer groups, Bible Study, 'Conversation' nights, etc (like 'the Lounge' youth group). Groups could be intergenerational, could meet less regularly with growing demands on family (e.g. 'Seasonally').
- 3) Pastoral Support food drives, expand the registry of people seeking assistance eg a lift to Mass, visitation, prayer for a family member.
- 4) Greater general awareness and acknowledgement of the various ministries & groups operating in the parish. Regular focus on a Ministry, update Directory of Ministries, promote on website / social media, hold an annual parish outreach / ministries / mission expo.
- 5) Regular communication at Mass and via other channels 'Witnessing discipleship in community'. Greater awareness will encourage parishioners to join, talk about, give and most importantly pray for ministries.
- 6) Revitalize and extend visitation to parishioners (elderly, housebound etc) so that they remain connected to the parish.
- 7) Establish the practice of blessing those in different ministries.
- 8) Welcome people at the beginning of Mass, ask where they are visiting from.
- 9) Find ways of explaining "how we do things around here" so that parishioners and visitors are informed.
- 10) A parish-wide smiling policy.
- 11) Establish mechanisms where parishioners can suggest to the Parish priest topics of concern which could be covered in homilies.
- 12) Brief commentary at the beginning of Mass to welcome people and introduce the theme of today's mass.
- 13) Provide more training for those in ministries.
- 14) Provide name tags for parishioners who are exercising a ministry during masses
- **15)** Revitalize Family groups.
- **16)** Hold a Wine and Cheese Night / Whisky Tasting Night.
- 17) Install a meet your parishioner screen in the Narthex, families have a photo and a little information about them to display.
- 18) Hold a Name Tag Sunday, each parishioner write their name on a name tag.
- 19) Develop an active approach to follow up with people after making sacraments.
- **20)** Have flowers in the narthex.

3 - 12 Months

- 21) Hold more social events. This could include, but is not limited to: movie nights, picnics, game nights, family breakfasts, women's morning teas, soup after Mass once a month, festivals, pot luck nights, charity nights, multicultural celebrations (wear national dress; multicultural food/dinner) night, etc. Some events could have mixed-generation tables or other strategies to encourage mixing with parishioners you do not yet know.
- 22) Have celebratory gatherings when people receive the sacraments (Reconciliation, First Communion, Confirmation).
- 23) Publish a Parish Quarterly 'Good News from the Parish.
- 24) Circulate 'Welcome' flyers within the wider community & possibly also distribute them at the end of Mass for newcomers.
- 25) Make our noticeboards in the church friendly, informative and inviting.
- **26)** Introduce an annual mass outdoors for Blessing of our animals, with parishioners encouraged to bring their pet along.
- 27) Parish liaison to connect with School to develop activities that engages school families with the parish.
- 28) Celebrating particular feast days (e.g. St Finbar's Feast, Pentecost) with a big parish celebration.

1 - 6 Years

- 29) Look at running programs to help deal with issues, e.g. grief and loss, aged care, homelessness etc.
- **30)** Build a Parish library a space for a coffee and resources.

THEME 3: ONGOING FORMATION OF INDIVIDUAL AND PARISH

Practical ideas suggestions

0 - 3 *Months*

- A) Invite seminarians to speak at youth gatherings.
- **B)** Additional talks / studies outside the Mass (podcasts, refresher courses (eg on Eucharist).
- C) Looking to IFM (Institute for Mission) for more training in ministries. Advertised in the weekly Barra and displayed in the Narthex.
- D) To provide for formation in ways to be stewards of creation e.g exploring Laudato Si. The Encyclical Laudato si' (Praise be to you) is developed around the concept of integral ecology, as an example able to articulate the fundamental relationships of the person: with God, with one's self, with other human beings, with creation. As the Pope himself explains in n. 15, this movement starts (ch. I) by listening spiritually to the results of the best scientific research on environmental matters available today, "letting them touch us deeply and provide a concrete foundation for the ethical and spiritual itinerary that follows". Science is the best tool by which we can listen to the cry of the earth.
- **E)** Update Piety stall with contemporary items.
- F) Establish a variety of small groups (Bible Study, 'Conversation' nights, Advent groups etc).
- **G)** Provide regular meditation / contemplation sessions within the parish.
- H) Establish a 'Faith Based book swap' and/or Book Club initiated from the parish.
- I) Investigate ways to have a variety of voices to reflect the Gospel by choosing reflections from both lay women and men theologians and a variety of religious from different orders to fully express the diversity and expanse of the Church perhaps publish in Barra.

3 - 12 Months

- J) Promote mentorship as learning from each other.
- **K)** Provide faith Q + A workshops.
- L) Invite Guest speakers to hold talks with parishioners.
- **M)** Theology on Tap at the Lapstone Hotel.
- N) Opportunities for group talks after Mass (social and spiritual).
- O) Initiate movie nights, some for enjoyment, others with discussion afterwards.

1 - 6 Years

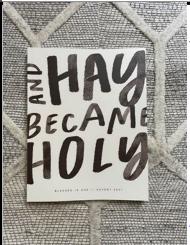
- **P)** Leadership training and formation programs, with some paid by the Parish.
- Q) Build a Parish library a space for a coffee and resources.
- **R)** Employ a parish coordinator to facilitate parish formation & events. Combine job with other parishes and could be full time.
- S) Provide access to guided retreats / parish retreats.

2022 LITURGICAL ROSTERS

I am organising the new Liturgical rosters for 2022. Can you please let me know if you will not be able to continue with your ministry next year.

Also, the parish is in need for more readers for all Masses. Can you please email <u>secretary@stfinbars.org.au</u> if you are able to help. Thank you for all your help and support.

Juliana Khnouf



Would you like to join thousands of Catholic women from all around the world, journeying together through Advent to gaze upon the child Jesus on Christmas Day with fresh eyes?

Walk along side us as we venture towards the stable with the shepherds, sit along side the oxen and sheep, travel with the Three Kings and herald with the angels, "come o, come Emmanuel".

Buy your advent devotional booklet today. Contact Jessica Doherty. jessica@doherty.com.au

FOOD DRIVE FOR REFUGEES THROUGH THE ST FRANCIS HOUSE OF WELCOME, GRANVILLE

Sunday 20th November to Saturday 11th December 2021 (3 weeks)

Can you help please?

FOOD REQUIRED à



Vegetable Oil 750ml Basmati rice 1kg packets Plain flour 1kg Raw Sugar 1kg

Long life (UHT) milk 1L size

Canned Tomatoes

Chick Peas

Lentils

Canned fruit

Tinned tuna in oil or springwater

Instant noodles – Chicken or vegetable

Cooking Spices

Jams & Honey

Breakfast cereal

Biscuits (savoury and sweet)

(Please no baked beans, soup, beetroot, or tinned spaghetti!)

Essential Personal Items Required à

Nappies (larger sizes/walker/junior)

Toothpaste and Toothbrushes

Shampoos

Toilet paper

Deodorant

Razors

Hygiene:

Laundry Detergent Powder

Chux wipes

Disinfectant

Handwash

Dishwashing Liquid

The House of Welcome exists to welcome, shelter, and empower people seeking asylum and refugees regardless of their age, gender, sexuality, nationality or religion. It provides client-centred holistic supports that nurture hope, advocate for justice and promote self-reliance, whilst acknowledging the dignity and the rights of each individual person. This Food Bank provides household necessities for people seeking asylum who have limited or

Donations can be left at:

St Finbar's Church, Levy Street Glenbrook at the office or inside the church door in the collection box or directly to Patricia and Kieran Murnane, 19 Hare Street, Glenbrook ph:47394688 – front verandah. All donations will be delivered by the Murnanes to the House of Welcome at Granville after 13th December. Thank you for your kindness.

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

Positions Vacant:

Digital Content Creator – Diocese of Parramatta More details at: parracatholic.org/employment Bishop's Christmas Appeal

No mother or child should be homeless and without support at Christmas. CatholicCare's Houses to Homes provides hope for vulnerable women and children facing abuse and hardship. Your kind donation today will help change the lives of homeless young women, who like Mary, seek a safe haven to raise their newborn child. Please give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal giving envelopes or online

at yourcatholic foundation.org.au/appeal

Help our inmates feel the Christmas spirit

With the beginning of the Season of Advent upon us, the Diocese of Parramatta, through CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, are collecting blank Christmas cards that will be distributed by our prison chaplains to inmates to send to their families this Christmas. You can leave unused Christmas cards at any

CatholicCare offices across the Diocese, which can be found by visiting https://catholicoutlook.info/inmatecards Glenbrook Parish Advent Reflection Day:

4 December 2021

You are invited to join the parish of St Finbar's, Glenbrook, for their Advent Retreat on Saturday 4 December from 10.30am to 4pm, followed by Vigil Mass at 5.30pm. The Retreat will reflect on the birth of Jesus, but also on being in touch with God through reflection on creation. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. The retreat will be \$5 per person.

For catering purposes, please RSVP by 29 November to secretary@stfinbars.org.au.

Job Vacancies - Could you share the stories of suffering Christians? Are you looking for flexible part time work? Aid to the Church in Need is recruiting for a number of Diocesan Outreach Assistants who will deliver monthly presentations in parishes across the Archdiocese. For all details visit, www.aidtochurch.org/work

Bateman Battersby W

We invite members of the Parish to take advantage of

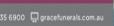
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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Colleen McHardy, Deacon Owen Rogers (Martin Rogers' Father), 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, 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:

Joseph Redler, Joseph McGoldrick, Keith Trevenar, John Hennessy, Ida Brown, Marie Brooks, Myee Goymour, Raelene Baskett, Winifred Lawrence, Cecil White and Nicholas Haddock,

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 27TH & 28TH NOVEMBER 2021 NOTE: ALL MINSTERS MUST BE DOUBLE VACCINATED UNLESS EXEMPT

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am	
Sacristan	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Peter McMahon	Stephen Brown	
Senior Server	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Peter McMahon	Stephen Brown	
Junior Server				
Warden	Huia Kingi	Volunteer Please	Garry Clune	
1st Reading	Eileen Jones	Leanne Brown	Avril Llewellyn	
2 nd Reading	Philomena Watkins	Geraldine Agahari	Michelle Wilson	
Intercession	Katy Ferris	Margaret Dickson	Justin Dowling	
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Terry Keogh	Joanne Stubbs	
Gifts	Steve & Heather Lee	Rivas Family	The Young Family	
Communion	Noreen Taylor	Ann Keating	Mila Svehla	
Cashiers	Robyn Flynn, Ann & Ray Keating			
Children's Liturgy	Carolyn			
Piety Stall	Ann Marie King			
Church Care	Noreen Taylor, Ian Dickson, Heather Lee, Wendy Bohan & Avril Llewellyn			
Hospitality	Please note that there will not be any Sunday Hospitality until further notice.			



