



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook

The Epiphany of the Lord

1st & 2nd January 2022

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 71; Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Sunday 2nd January <i>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 3.00pm Epiphany Pilgrimage fun day.	Fr Joe's Musings	
Monday 3rd January	Office is closed	<p>Epiphany</p> <p>But why, we might ask, did the Magi alone see the star? We often make do with looking at the ground. It's enough to have our health, a little money and a bit of entertainment. I wonder if we still know how to look up at the sky. The Magi were not content with just getting by, with keeping afloat. They understood that to truly live, we need a lofty goal and we need to keep looking up.</p> <p>We may ask ourselves what star we have chosen to follow in our lives. Some stars may be bright, but they do not point the way. So it is with success, money, career, honours and pleasures when these become our life. They are meteors: they blaze momentarily, but then quickly burn out and their brilliance fades. The Lord's star, however, may not always overwhelm by its brightness, but it is always there, ever kindly. It takes you by the hand in life and accompanies you. It does not promise material reward, but ensures peace and grants, as it did to the Magi, "exceedingly great joy" (Mt 2:10).</p> <p>Jesus' star demands that we free ourselves from useless burdens and unnecessary extras that only prove a hindrance, and accept unforeseen obstacles along the map of life. Jesus allows himself to be found by those who seek him, but to find him we need to get up and go, not sit around - take risks, not stand still but set out. Jesus makes demands: he tells those who seek him to leave behind the armchair of worldly comforts and the reassuring warmth of hearth and home. In other words, if we want to find Jesus, we have to overcome our fear of taking risks, our self-satisfaction and our indolent refusal to ask anything more of life. Yet those risks are immensely worth the effort since in finding that Child, in discovering his tenderness and love, we rediscover ourselves.</p> <p>Having come to Jesus after a long journey, the Magi do as he does: they bring gifts. Jesus is there to give his life; they offer him their own costly gifts: gold, incense and myrrh. The Gospel becomes real when the journey of life ends in giving. To do good without counting the cost, even when unasked, even when you gain nothing thereby, even if it is unpleasant. That is what God wants. He who became small for our sake asks us to offer something for the least of his brothers and sisters. Who are they? They are those who have nothing to give in return, the needy, the hungry, the stranger, the prisoner, the poor (cf. Mt 25:31-46). We give a gift pleasing to Jesus when we care for a sick person, spend time with a difficult person, help someone for the sake of helping or forgive someone who has hurt us. These are gifts freely given, and they cannot be lacking in the lives of Christians. Jesus reminds us that if we only love those who love us, we do as the pagans do (cf. Mt 5:46-47). Today let us look at our hands, so often empty of love, and let us try to think of some free gift that we can give without expecting anything in return. That will please the Lord. And let us ask him: "Lord, let me rediscover the joy of giving".</p>	
Tuesday 4th January	9.15am Mass	<p>Jesus' star demands that we free ourselves from useless burdens and unnecessary extras that only prove a hindrance, and accept unforeseen obstacles along the map of life. Jesus allows himself to be found by those who seek him, but to find him we need to get up and go, not sit around - take risks, not stand still but set out. Jesus makes demands: he tells those who seek him to leave behind the armchair of worldly comforts and the reassuring warmth of hearth and home. In other words, if we want to find Jesus, we have to overcome our fear of taking risks, our self-satisfaction and our indolent refusal to ask anything more of life. Yet those risks are immensely worth the effort since in finding that Child, in discovering his tenderness and love, we rediscover ourselves.</p>	
Wednesday 5th January	9.15am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion	<p>Today let us look at our hands, so often empty of love, and let us try to think of some free gift that we can give without expecting anything in return. That will please the Lord. And let us ask him: "Lord, let me rediscover the joy of giving".</p>	
Thursday 6th January	9.15am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion		
Friday 7th January	9.15am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion 1.00pm Bowlers		
Saturday 8th January	No Morning Mass 5.30pm Vigil Mass Live Streaming Link https://youtu.be/owNw9YTVoMk		
Sunday 9th January <i>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass		
<p>OFFICE CLOSURE BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR</p> <p>Please note that the Parish Office will be closed from Friday the 24th of December to Tuesday the 11th of January with the exceptions of Wednesdays 10-12pm and Fridays 10-12pm. There <i>will be no daily Masses except for Saturday the 1st of January at 9.15am</i> as we celebrate <i>Mary, the Holy Mother of God solemnity</i>. Father Joe will be away 5th to the 14th of January so there will be no daily Masses but there will be Communion Service on many weekdays. Weekend Masses will be held at their regular times.</p>			
<p><i>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 .</i></p>			

Pope Francis

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

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Office Hours: Closed this week

Office Phone:

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46 Levy Street, Glenbrook 2773

PO Box 123 Glenbrook NSW 2773

Sacraments

Confessions: Saturday 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

ROSTER FOR 8TH & 9TH JANUARY 2022

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	Volunteers Please		Volunteers please
Warden	Volunteers Please	Volunteer Please	Patricia Murnane
1 st Reading	Maureen Tulk	Michelle Wilson	Richard Cutler
2 nd Reading	Dawn Willis	Geraldine Agahari	Carmel Higgins
Intercession	Volunteer Please	John De Mattia	Joanne Stubbs
I.T Operators	Pat Watson/Anne Hobbs	Robyn Flynn	Joanne Stubbs
Musician	No Music	During Mass	In January
Presentation of the Gifts	Allan & Eileen Jones	Volunteers Please	Dorothea Walsh
Minister of Communion	Margaret Richards	Kath Tierney	Gerard Egan
Children's Liturgy	School Holidays		
Cashier	Bernadette Shalala & Erika McNay		
Hospitality	Please note that there will not be any Sunday Hospitality until further notice.		
Church Care	Robyn Flynn, Jan de Bie, Jessica Doherty, Dawn Willis & Amira Nassif		
Piety Stall at 9.30am Mass	Not available during January		

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 PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

John Okalebo (Susan Dowling's father), Frances Lynch (Daniel Lynch Grandmother), Joe Lopez, Anthony Crimston, Patricia Borland (Mary Lopez' sister), Shirley Williams, Stanko Barach (Chris Barach's Father), Marie Watson (Patrick Watson's Sister), Gary Shackleton, Michael McMahon (Peter's brother) and Colleen McHardy.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Sybil Mason, Chris Paine, Margaret Stevens, Lyn Beltran, 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:

Dorothy Palise, Robyn Kopp, Alfred Groves, Valma Adamson, Joan Kelly, Robert Clarke, Helen Morgan, Jonathon Murray and Christopher Appleton.