



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
5th & 6th February 2022

Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 137; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

While people were pressing in on Jesus...

As a child, I used to admire not just any soccer player, but the one who was not only brilliant but also young, dynamic and a fashion freak. Someone who brought something new to the scene, beyond his soccer playing qualities. I used then to listen to them and imitate their words and actions.

It seems that in today's gospel something similar is happening. The crowds are pressing in on Jesus, excited to see the young prophet, and hoping to hear "the word of God" (v. 1). Luke uses that phrase, "Word of God," frequently (3:2; 8:11, 21; 11:28; Acts 4:31; 6:2, 7; 8:14; 11:1; 13:5, 7, 46; 17:13; 18:11). Recently Jesus told the multitudes who were trying to keep him with them, "I must preach the good news of the Kingdom of God to the other cities also" (4:43)—thus equating Jesus' preaching with news of the kingdom of God. In the book of *Acts*, Luke uses "Word of God" more broadly—to encompass the full content of the apostles' preaching.

The people were clinging to Jesus's words because they were tired from work and yet were not able to provide for themselves, let alone for their families. However Jesus' fame does not come from his ability to speak nice, yet empty and deceptive words. His words are filled with the truth that brings happiness beyond material wishing. Luke used the word "ABUNDANCE" to describe the effect Jesus had on the people.

Each of these three in the boat (Peter, James and John) became great Godly leaders, but their greatness had its roots, not in their wisdom, talents, or spirituality, but in God's call. God calls whom God calls—and God often gets the best mileage out of the least likely candidates. Jesus says, "For whoever is least among you all, this one will be great" (9:48)—perhaps because the least are quicker to respond—less likely to count the cost—more apt to trust.

Happily, God calls each of us to some important task—often one that seems of no more consequence than letting down the nets one more time. The fishermen who obeyed Jesus that day could not imagine that, two thousand years later we would still be deriving spiritual nourishment from the story of their obedience—but we are. It matters not whether Christ calls us to serve on a faraway mission field or to a far humbler task—ushering, singing in the choir, setting up coffee, visiting a shut-in, feeding a hungry person, or giving our last dollar. In Christ's hands, the modest task becomes a vehicle for epiphany—revelation—discovery—greater faith. Christ can turn our most humble act of obedience into a net-breaking, boat-sinking miracle of abundance.

Discipleship then, means shifting one's concerns from the things of this world to the things of God. In the book of Acts, Luke will continue this emphasis with the story of the early church sharing everything in common (Acts 2:44-47).

Can I invite you to reflect on your God given talents and qualities? Perhaps, you can use them to catch people for God, here at St Finbar. In the Book of Ecclesiastes, it says: *I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live.*

Doing good to others is certainly a key component of being happy.

Have a wonderful weekend.

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

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Peter McMahon

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Office Hours: 9.30am – 3.00pm

Tuesday to Friday

(Closed on Mondays)

Office Phone: **Ne w (02) 47426958**

Address:

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

SUNDAY RITE OF WELCOME

The Parish joyfully welcomes Fynn & Vance Whiticker into our Faith Community. They are going to be Baptised in our Parish next weekend. May God bless them both.



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

Sunday 6th February <i>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm "The Lounge" Youth Group P/C
Monday 7th February	No Mass. Office is closed
Tuesday 8th February	9.15am Mass 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting M/R
Wednesday 9th February	9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 10.30am Pastoral Care Meeting M/R 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C
Thursday 10th February <i>St Scholastica</i>	9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bridge Club P/C 3.00pm SRE Meeting M/R 7.30pm Blue Mountains Dance Group P/C
Friday 11th February	9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bowlers P/C 4.30pm Organ & Concert Ctte meeting M/R 7.30pm Briony & Jesse Choir Practice
Saturday 12th February	9.15am Mass 11.30am Te Deum's Choir Practice 4.30pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass Live Streaming Mass Link https://youtu.be/_5TMHfh_ieE
Sunday 13th February <i>6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Baptisms

Available for Advertising

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

LITURGY FORMATION DAY AT ST FINBAR'S



"The Mass – We go there, but we don't get it"

The Mass is supposed to be the "summit and climax of Christian life". We are also invited to participate actively and conscientiously. But how can we do it? Is the Mass not all about the priest saying and acting in the Mass? If you want to know, come and see!

Presenter: Very Rev. Peter Williams, Vicar General of the Diocese of Parramatta and Lecturer in Liturgy at the Catholic Institute of Sydney

When: Saturday 19th February, beginning with the morning Mass at 9.15am, ending at 1pm with Lunch.

Where: St Finbar Catholic Parish, 53 Levy Street, Glenbrook NSW 2773

Cost: A donation for catering purpose. Please RSVP by 15 February to secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Program: 9.15 am Mass presided by Fr Peter Williams – 10 am Coffee and Tea – 10.30am Talk by Fr Peter Williams, followed by Q & A – 11.30 am Coffee and Tea Break – 11.45 am – Discussion a) What is your impression about the way your parish conduct the liturgy (church's architecture, IT settings, music etc.)? b) What can we do to enable parishioners to actively participate in the liturgy – 12.30 pm Midday prayer, followed by lunch

ST FINBAR'S CALENDAR DATES

The following events are upcoming in our parish:

FEBRUARY

- * Tues 8th: Parish Pastoral Council meeting
- * Thurs 17th: Healing Mass at 10am
- * Sat 19th: Liturgy Formation day 9-12
- * Fri 25th: Adoration at 7:30pm
- * Sun 27th: Parish Annual Meeting/Gathering 10:30am

MARCH

- * Wed 2nd Ash Wednesday. Masses at 9:15am & 7pm
- * Fri 4th (and every Friday in Lent): Stations of the Cross at 7pm followed by Adoration and Eucharistic Blessing

SHARE THE FAITH!

We are an enthusiastic team of Scripture Teachers who provide half-hour lessons once a week, for the students in our local primary schools. It is a very rewarding ministry.

CANTABILE CHOIR

Calling singers of all abilities! If you are interested in volunteering at St Finbars why not join Cantabile Choir. Minimal commitment is required, rehearsals 6-7pm Tues with mass once per month. For inquiries please contact Bernadette on 0466 942 574

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

Synod of Bishops – Have your say

What would you say to Pope Francis if you had 10 minutes? Catholics across the world are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops. Find out how to send your message at parracatholic.org/synod-of-bishops

Pastoral Formation offering leadership and formation courses in 2022

In 2022, we can still deepen our community connections and growth in faith! To encourage this, Pastoral Formation – Diocese of Parramatta has two programs FOR YOU – all offered in a COVID-safe manner.

- 1) Ministry Leadership Program: Perfect for current and aspiring ministry leaders. 10 or 20 sessions (\$10/session).
- 2) Themes of Faith Program: Ideal for people interested in asking life & faith questions in discussion groups. 10 sessions (\$5/session). See our website pfparra.org.au or email met@parracatholic.org for more details.

Life, Marriage and Family Office Marriage Preparation Courses

Dates for the Diocesan Life, Marriage and Family Office's in-person marriage preparation weekend courses in 2022 are now available, with the SmartLoving Engaged Online course another option to prepare for your marriage. For more information, or to book your course, visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp or call (02) 8838 3460.

Donate to Caritas Australia Emergency Appeal for Tonga

Tonga is reeling after a violent underwater volcano eruption triggered tsunamis, destroyed telecommunications and blanketed the country in ash and rock. Roads, bridges and homes are damaged. Water supplies have been contaminated by volcanic ash and saltwater. Tonga needs your prayer and support urgently. Give now to help with emergency response. Visit www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/pacific or call 1800 024 413 toll free to make your donation.

ST FINBAR'S NETBALL CLUB

SFNC are currently taking registrations for the 2022 Winter Competition.

We have positions available across many teams from NetSetGo (aged 6 - 9years), Junior (10 - 17) as well as Senior (18+) age groups.

Please email secretarysfnc@gmail.com.au or phone Janette Ankers on 0438 672 040 for more information.

ST FINBAR'S FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

Fr Joe has mapped out a faith formation program for St Finbar's for 2022. It has various activities spread right throughout the year to help all parishioners grow in their personal faith as well as grow in faith with our community. Details are included in an email being sent with this issue of The Barra. If you do not have email you can collect a hard copy from the parish office.

HOLY WEEK PASSOVER MEAL

The parish will be following in Jesus's footsteps this year by celebrating a Passover meal in the parish hall on Wednesday 13th April. Due to COVID, numbers will be capped at 70. Details are in an email being sent with this issue of The Barra.

NEW JUNIOR MASS SERVERS

The parish is trying to bolster the number of Junior Servers who are prepared to assist Fr Joe at weekend Masses. The need to have received their First Holy Communion and will need to be prepared to go on a roster once a month. If your children are interested, please contact the parish office with the children's names, your name, and the Mass they will be likely to attend.

Bateman Battersby

L A W Y E R S

We invite members of the Parish to take advantage of our legal services specialising in :

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
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Phone: 02 47315899

www.batemanbattersby.com.au

Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au

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

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Reg Moore, Don Crameri, Ray Cremin (Pearse Cremin's Brother), John Okalebo (Susan Dowling's father), Frances Lynch (Daniel Lynch Grandmother), Joe Lopez, Anthony Crimston, Patricia Borland (Mary Lopez's sister), Shirley Williams, Stanko Barach (Chris Barach's Father) and Colleen McHardy.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Sybil Mason, Chris Paine, Margaret Stevens, Lyn Beltran, Margaret Christensen, Joan Paine, Mark Bates, Lyn Downes, 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:

Richard Smith, Robert Sisson, Mark Devlin and Joan Whiting.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 12TH & 13TH FEBRUARY 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
Warden	Allan Jones	Kevin Goener	Patricia Murnane
1 st Reading	Maureen Tulk	Carl Moll	Irene Aligno
2 nd Reading	Eileen Jones	Elizabeth Konza	Kristina Rajnoch
Intercession	Dawn Willis	John Isaksen	Yvonne Scanlan
IT Operators	Pat Watson & Anne Hobbs	Robyn Flynn	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Allan & Eileen Jones	Volunteers Please	Dorothea Walsh
Communion	Thea Robertson	Jim Tierney	John Mullane
Cashiers	Joe Grange		
Children's Liturgy	No children's liturgy during February due to COVID concerns		
Piety Stall	Beth Culliver		
Church Care	Volunteers please		
Hospitality	Please note that there will not be any Sunday Hospitality until further notice.		
Garden Club	Lukas Rajnoch, Andrew Howard, Stuart Sheary & Daniel Lynch		



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