



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
3rd Sunday of Lent Year C
19th & 20th March 2022

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15; Psalm 102; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Late have I loved You...

Some of you may have heard about Saint Augustine who had lived in the fourth century and was considered the arguably greatest theologian of the early Church. He wrote his "**Confessions**" in 398 AD describing the path that led him to become a Christian in 387 AD. Reflecting on the sins of his early life and his reluctance to accept Christ, he wrote about his final deliverance through God's intervention: "Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you. And see, you were within and I was in the external world and sought you there, and in my unlovely state I plunged into those lovely created things which you made. You were with me, and I was not with you. The lovely things kept me far from you, though if they did not have their existence in you, they had no existence at all. You called and cried out loud and shattered my deafness. You were radiant and resplendent, you put to flight my blindness. You were fragrant, and I drew in my breath and now pant after you. I tasted you, and I feel but hunger and thirst for you. You touched me, and I am set on fire to attain the peace which is yours."

The Gospel of this Sunday reminds us that it is never too late to make a U-turn and to return to God who is always with us, even though we were not all the time with Him. We know all too well that we can't avoid the crap of life, but (at the risk of sounding clichéd) we can grow through it. We, the weak, we, the weary and vulnerable. We can grow through the crap and come to respond to tragedy – be it natural disaster or criminal activity or the threatened deportation of a friend – not with fear but with compassion and action, so that we become the sort of hard-nosed but soft-hearted, battle-scarred, long-suffering, persevering, ever-loving, non-judgmental, nurturing, fruit-bearing people that God requires.

Hence, Lent is a time for good deeds. If we remain focus on the good things, we have no time for deeds of evil. If we concentrate on the grace of God that is within us, we no longer waste our talents for bad things. Augustine writes: "It is from God's goodness that kind actions spring."

This week we can do two good things for our neighbour and for ourselves:

- 1) **On Sunday 20th at 11.30 am** at our neighbouring Baptist church, let us join our Christian sisters and brothers in Glenbrook and share a soup with each other in solidarity with those who experience little goodness of life. While fasting with Jesus who refused to have his fill to be with those who are hungry, we can help *GATEWAY – Family Services* charity in Blaxland.
- 2) **Tuesday 22 at 7pm** (Parish Hall), **Sr Dr Margaret Ghosn**, Principal of the Maronite College in Harris Park and Lecturer in biblical theology, will present a talk on the *Crucifixion and Death of Jesus according to Luke*. This talk may help us to understand the love and sacrifice of Jesus for us.

Please keep reading Father Joe's Musings on the 2nd page.

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
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Office Hours: 9.30am – 3.00pm
Tuesday to Friday
(**Closed on Mondays**)

Office Phone: **4742 6958**

Address:

52 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 Nicolo Spiteri & Noah Barton into our Faith Community. They are going to be Baptised at 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.

Invitation to St Finbar's Passover Meal

Tuesday, 12 April 2022, 6.30pm



The Gospel accounts of Jesus' Last Supper closely align with the traditional Passover celebration. In the Gospel of Luke, we read:

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So, Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it." (*Luke 22:7-8*)

Jesus and the apostles observed the Passover as it likely was practiced among first-century Jews, but his additional words and actions inspired the Passover with his own life and the promise of salvation. In *Acts 20:1-7*, it is mentioned that Paul was keeping the festival of unleavened bread with the believers there. When we celebrate Jesus' Passover Meal, we recall the history of salvation that God has offered to all of us from the very beginning of creation. The Passover is a memorial of the redemption of the Exodus from Egypt and rejoicing in God's salvation. This event can draw Jews and Christians closer to one another.

The Passover meal begins at 6.30 pm in the Parish Hall. It encompasses various Food rituals including the blessing of bread and multiple cups of wine (or cups of grape juice), bitter herbs, eggs and roasted Lamb and baked potatoes, salads and veggies (as mains).

Cost: 12 AUD per adult, and 8 AUD per child, or 50 AUD per family.

Please RSVP to secretary@stfinbars.org by **25/03/2022**

PARISH CALENDAR

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

Sunday 20th March <i>3rd Sunday of Lent Year C</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 1.30pm Bridge Club P/C 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C
Monday 21st March	No Mass. Office is closed 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R
Tuesday 22nd March	9.15am Mass 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.00pm The Passion, Death & Resurrection P/C 7.30pm SFNC Meeting M/R
Wednesday 23rd March	No Morning Mass 10.30am Funeral Mass for Monica Hampson 9.30am Playgroup P/C 3.15pm Lenten Group M/R 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C
Thursday 24th March	9.15am Mass 1.30pm Bridge Club P/C 7.30pm Blue Mountains Dance Group P/C 7.30pm Naomi's Group Choir Practice 7.30pm Connect Group M/R
Friday 25th March <i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i>	9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bowlers 7.00pm Adoration
Saturday 26th March	No Morning Mass 11.30am Te Deum's Choir Practice 4.30pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass Live Streaming Link https://youtu.be/XdasWh6ihbE
Sunday 27th March <i>4th Sunday of Lent Year C</i>	7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Baptisms 2.00pm Sydney Male Choir Concert

Father Joe's Musings continued from the 1st page

Bishop Vincent invites us all to support the refugees in whatever way we can including asking the Commonwealth Government for an increase in our intake of Afghani refugees. Likewise, the NSW Catholic Bishops also urge us to petition for the extension of *Palliative Care* and against the NSW Euthanasia Bill which is very extreme and could expose many vulnerable to high risk.

Let us end with another wonderful quotation from St Augustine: "Further, all people are to be loved equally. But since you cannot do good to all, you are to pay special regard to those who, by the accidents of time, or place, or circumstance, are brought into closer connection with you."

Anyway, have a wonderful weekend

Fr Joe

SYDNEY MALE CHOIR - UNMASKED



Sunday 27 March 2022 - 2.00pm - 4.00pm
St Finbar's Catholic Church
52 Levy Street Glenbrook
Adults \$25 each - Children under 16 free
Tickets available at the door or online:
www.sydneymalechoir.com

REMINDER TO HAVE YOUR FEED BACK ON THE PARISH PRELIMINARY ISSUE FOR COMMENT

Please remember to have a look at the masterplan for our parish. The plan is on display on the noticeboard inside the church.

This consultation process is the way to table all comments, opportunities and provide a mechanism for addressing them. Please use the comment register which has been amended into a google document to promote broad participation.

Please write your comments on the plan by following this link: <https://tinyurl.com/Finnies-Masterplan>

BLUE MOUNTAINS CATHOLICS TAKE ACTION WORKSHOPS

Date: 3rd April 1pm – 4pm

Venue: St Thomas Aquinas Springwood
Late registration still accepted.

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/BMDGoT>

Available for Advertising

Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal raising funds for Catholic Care's Community Drop-In Centres

Catholic Care is working hard to reach our neighbours in need and to reduce social isolation and loneliness throughout our community. Will you be a Good Samaritan and help Catholic Care reach our vulnerable neighbours, so they have safe, welcoming places to connect with others and access support? Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan the QR code. Thank you for your heartfelt prayers and support.



Caritas Project Compassion 2022

Caritas Australia's Lenten **Project Compassion** campaign has begun and will lead us all the way towards Easter. This year's theme **For All Future Generations** comes from the biblical story of the great flood (Genesis 9:12-15). It reminds us that the good we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Find out more at caritas.org.au/project-compassion or contact our Diocesan Director of Caritas: Sebastian.Salaske-Lentern@parracatholic.org or 0409 399 505.

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 – 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.

Catholic schools across the Diocese are enrolling now!

Our 80 Catholic schools are enrolling now for 2023. Come along to an open day to learn more and see what a Catholic education can offer your child. Find your local Catholic school and it's open day at <https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/whats-on/coming-up/catholic-school-open-days>

Positions Vacant:

Governance, Risk & Compliance Admin Support Coordinator – Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 10pm Wednesday 23 March**. More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

EASTER ROSTERS—2022

It is this time of the year again when we are looking for volunteers to help with Easter Liturgy. We will need Readers, Volunteers for Washing of the Feet, Senior Servers, Sacristans, Junior Servers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. If you are able to help, please add your name to the list on the Warden's table. Thank you for all your help and support.

• Job Vacancies – Aid to the Church in Need is seeking to fill two positions:

Benefactor Support Officer + Coordinator, Friends of the Suffering Souls. Part-time or full-time option available. Join an international Catholic charity which exists to keep the faith alive in those places where it is most at risk. Visit, www.aidtochurch.org/jobs.



Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA

- **A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:** Aid to the Church in Need has launched a national emergency appeal for Ukraine. ACN is committed to strengthening and supporting the Catholic Church in Ukraine, as we have done for the past 70 years. The immediate emergency help will support the work of the Church in Ukraine by assisting priests, brothers, and religious sisters to continue their pastoral and outreach programs. We will continue to stand by our brothers and sisters in faith as they undergo trying times and seek to bring peace to a country that is surrounded by turmoil and unrest. Can you provide aid to the Catholic people in Ukraine? They need your help! Visit www.aidtochurch.org/ukraine

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L A W Y E R S

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Monica Hampson, Shirley Hardie (Brian Robertson's Sister), Eunice Knox (Carolyn Watson's Mother), Molly Hurley (Marie Hurley's sister), Reg Moore, Don Crameri, Joe Lopez and Anthony Crimston.

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, Maddison Farrugia, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Colleen Nolan, Pam Clyne and Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Gavin Paine, Clare Druhan, Thelma Sparks, Thomas Boylan, Julia Gunning, Paul Trevaskis, Ruby Luland, Lyndall McManus and Debra Saporito.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 26TH & 27TH MARCH 2022

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Carl Moll	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Carl Moll	Stephen Brown
Junior Server	Volunteers Please	Volunteers Please	Volunteers Please
Warden	Huia Kingi	Kevin Goener	Gary Clune
1 st Reading	Eileen Jones	Leanne Brown	Cecilia Zammit
2 nd Reading	Philomena Watkins	Geraldine Agahari	Michelle Wilson
Intercession	Katy Ferris	Elizabeth Konza	Yvonne Scanlan
Music	Cantabile	N/A	Holy Light
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Pat Watson	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Steve & Heather Lee	Rivas Family	The Young Family
Communion	Noreen Taylor	Jessica Tuller	Mila Svehla
Cashiers	N/A		
Children's Liturgy	Danielle		
Piety Stall	Ann Marie King		
Church Care	Jeannine Ashbee, Deb Youngman, Leesa & Wayne Gillard		
Hospitality	Marie Nassif, Kerry & Peter Herborn		
Garden Club	Lukas Rajnoch, Andrew Howard, Stuart Sheary & Daniel Lynch		



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