



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C
10th & 11th September 2022

Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14; Psalm 50; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-32

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

The Lost and Found Agency of God

This Sunday's gospel comprises of three stories. In the parable of The Lost Sheep, the shepherd leaves behind the 99 sheep to search for the 1 lost sheep. When he finds it, the shepherd rejoices not alone as in Matthew's version, but with friends and neighbours. In the same way, God rejoices more over 1 sinner who repents—like the outcasts who have come to hear Jesus—than over the 99 righteous like the Pharisees and scribes. The second story of this Sunday's gospel, about a poor woman who will not stop searching until she finds her lost coin, makes the same point. Why are the Pharisees complaining? They should rejoice when the lost are found. Finally, we come to what is probably the most memorable parable in the Gospels, the story we know as The Prodigal Son. Just as in The Lost Sheep and The Lost Coin, this story (found only in Luke) is really about the seeker. The loving father is at the centre of this parable. Even though his son runs off with his father's inheritance and squanders the money, the father waits for him, hoping for his return. Upon his son's return, the father, "full of compassion," runs out to embrace and forgive him before the son can utter one word of repentance. At this point the rejoicing begins. The parable does not end there. Rather, it makes one more point about the older son's reaction. This son who never left, just like the Pharisees and scribes who feel they are righteous, refuses to enter his father's house to join in the rejoicing. He has served his father. He has obeyed him. Perhaps it was not out of love. The father's response teaches us that God's care and compassion extend to the righteous and sinner alike. When we are lost, God doesn't wait for our return. He actively seeks us out. And when the lost are found, how could we not celebrate and rejoice?

Last Wednesday, six adults began their RCIA journey with Margaret Richards and her RCIA team. They embark on this faith pilgrimage to discover and rediscover the compassion of God who always seeks us out. Let us pray that their journey will lead to the joy of faith and close relationship with Jesus.

Also, it was a real joy for me to have the school children and their teachers in the church for a teaching session on the sacraments this week. The children were not only curious about the various elements needed for the celebration of the sacraments. Moreover, I could really detect the joy in their eyes that see how God works in their lives through the sacraments. Sadly, many children do not have many opportunities to do so due to the busyness of their parents' lives. A big thank you to our teachers and REC for making this possible for our children.

On Tuesday we had Dr Sebastian-Selaske Lentern, Peace, Justice and Ecology Coordinator for the Diocese of Parramatta, with us. During his talk, he reminded us that our Biblical and Catholic tradition *obliges* us to care for creation and strangers. Jesus identifies Himself as a stranger to be welcomed (Matthew 25:35). The Catholic Church teaches that Christ has in some way united himself to every person (cf. CCC 618), whether or not one is aware of this. Christ will consider done to himself the kind of treatment that is reserved to any human person, in particular, to the least among them, the stranger (cf. EMCC 15). Thank you, Melissa McDonald who has coordinated this faith formation evening for St Finbars. In this context, please be reminded of the **Season of Creation Camping Trip from 30th September to 2nd October**. This may be something for the whole family as it is a long weekend event.

On next Tuesday 13th September from 7pm – 8.30pm, I will deliver a talk on the ***Spiritual Mind of Pope Francis***. Come along and learn from the spirituality of Pope Francis.

Don't forget to register for the upcoming events: **St Finbar's Feast Day** on 25th September and **St Finbar's Finest Celebration** on 8th October.

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: (**02**) 47426958

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

Thank you to Tish and Kieran Murnane, Frank Zammit, Brian Egan, Carl Moll, Peter McMahon and Martin Rogers who helped last Saturday with the cleaning up of the green garden waste. A special thank you to Brian Sayah for the provision of the truck and coffees.

SUNDAY'S

BAPTISMS:

The Parish joyfully announces the Baptism of Eleanor Margo

Mowbray and Winnie Anne Holmes and warmly welcomes them into our Faith Community. They will be Baptised after Mass this Sunday.



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.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE

the Traditional custodians of this land on which we worship at St Finbar's - The Darug and Gundungurra People. We pay respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

<p>Sunday 11th September</p> <p><i>24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass</p> <p>9.30am Mass</p> <p>10.45am Baptisms</p>
<p>Monday 12th September</p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed</p> <p>5.30pm SVDP Meeting M/R</p> <p>7.00pm Bible Studies M/R</p>
<p>Tuesday 13th September</p> <p><i>St John Chrysostom</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p> <p>7.00pm Faith Formation- The Mind of Pope Francis</p>
<p>Wednesday 14th September</p> <p><i>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</p> <p>9.30am Playgroup P/C</p> <p>10.30am Pastoral Care Meeting M/R</p> <p>7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Thursday 15th September</p> <p><i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i></p>	<p>9.15am Healing Mass followed by morning tea</p> <p>10.00am Bridge Lessons M/R</p> <p>1.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>7.30pm Blue Mountains Folk Dance P/C</p>
<p>Friday 16th September</p> <p><i>Sts Cornelius and Cyprian</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>1.00pm Bowlers</p>
<p>Saturday 17th September</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>11.30am Te Deum's Choir Practice</p> <p>4.30pm Confessions</p> <p>5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 18th September</p> <p><i>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass</p> <p>9.30am Mass</p> <p>1.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>6.00pm Youth Mass</p> <p>Live Streaming Link</p> <p>https://youtu.be/jmU0xbsclcg</p> <p>7.00pm "The Lounge" Senior Youth Group</p>

You can still support our priests' dignified retirement and our clergy who are in ill-health

Please spare a thought for these humble priests who have cared for our faith community's spiritual nourishment and wellbeing all their lives, asking little for themselves. When their time comes to retire, many are without family to support them and assist with the everyday essentials for a comfortable retirement. **The Clergy Support Foundation can help them with the personal, professional, and practical care and guidance needed to transition to a dignified and well-deserved retirement.** Please give generously to the Bishop's Appeal using the envelopes in the church or at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan this QR Code.

Thank you.



Heather Lee

It is with great sadness that I announce the resignation of Heather Lee as coordinator of the church cleaning groups due to health reasons and family responsibilities. For over 13 years, Heather has professionally organised the roster of the church's cleaners. Because of her great faith and love for St Finbar, the church has always been impeccably clean. On behalf of St Finbar, I would like to express our gratitude to Heather and wish her a speedy recovery of health. We are now looking for a parishioner who would help St Finbar with the coordination of the cleaning roster. This is an important ministry to ensure that the place of worship is an inviting space. Heather is happy to assist in the process of changeover. Please contact Juliana, Parish Secretary, (02) 4742 6958, Vince Dobson, (02) 4739 1376 if you would be interested to take over as the new Coordinator.


Fr. Joe

Lent, Easter and Organ Fanfare, performed by Stephen Smith Recorded at St Finbar's Church, Glenbrook. \$12 each

Please contact the parish office if you like to buy a copy.

MEMORABLE MELODIES

A Concert of delightful music for Voice, Violin and Organ



Rebecca Daniel (Violin/Soprano)
 Michael Taylor (Organ)
 2pm Sunday 23rd October 2022
 at St Finbar Catholic Church, Glenbrook
 Entry: \$15/\$10



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ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

ST FINBAR'S FEAST DAY! SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25 - 9.30AM MASS

Special focus this year is the 110th Anniversary of the blessing and opening of our first church here – a little wooden church, renamed as the Fr Thomas Barlow Centre in 2012

Our little church is our historic gem and is also highly significant in the history and development of Glenbrook and surrounds. The church was blessed and opened on Sunday 25th August 1912. We are very privileged to still have this building. Bishop Vincent Long will celebrate the Mass, a history display, morning tea and sausage sizzle, fun games, and community time. If you wish to bring a plate to share would be appreciated it. For catering purposes *please add your name to the register on the Warden's table.*



ST FINBAR'S FINEST FEAST DINNER, DANCE & FUN SATURDAY 8TH OF OCTOBER 2022 AT 6.30PM FOR 7PM START

At: St Finbar's Parish Hall - BYO Alcoholic Beverages

Attire: Your Sunday Best

Tickets: \$30 Per Person including a glass of bubbly on arrival

RSVP: 2nd of October - Strictly 90 people only.

Please add your name to the list on the Warden's table.



A BIG THANK YOU FROM THE CATECHISTS

A big THANK YOU to Fr. Joe for donating the Trivia Night proceeds towards much needed resources for the Catechist Team, as well as to TIMEOUT TUESDAY for their generous donation - and thanks to all the participants! It's greatly appreciated and will certainly boost our resources!

Beth Culliver and Catechist Team

Saturday 10 September at 1pm. First practice for Dawn's concert (26 Nov.). Dates will not be strictly fortnightly. No practices on 4th of the month. Times notified at first practice

Building Safe Parishes Together in 2022: An Update from the Office for Safeguarding

Safeguarding Sunday – 11th September 2022

Theme: 'Safe and Supported'

Let's work together to ensure the children and adults at risk in our Parish feel safe and supported.

The Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday (formerly Child Protection Sunday) on the second Sunday of September -- at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week.

Safeguarding Sunday is a reminder to us to make a commitment to practices and protocols that create and maintain safe environments for all people. It invites people to pray for those harmed by abuse directly and indirectly.

[From: <https://www.catholic.org.au/safeguarding-sunday>]

This Sunday please say a special prayer for our Parish communities in Parramatta Diocese:

May we seek to follow the example of Christ and the teachings of his Church:

that we will work collaboratively to ensure that policies and procedures are implemented to protect children, young people and the vulnerable in our society.

We pray our safeguarding practices will ensure the happiness and confidence of every child, and foster a supportive parish environment of safety and protection where children flourish.

On this Safeguarding Sunday let us make a commitment as volunteers in ministry to show we are keeping our Parish community safe for all children and adults who may be at risk.

Let's complete our Mandatory Safeguarding Training this year!

Contact your Parish Office and your Safeguarding Champion to enquire about Face-to-Face Training opportunities in your Parish. If you would like to complete the training independently on our online training platform you can start these modules at any time and complete them at your own pace.

Sign up onto the platform by clicking on this link: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

If you have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email Maria Kervin, Community Engagement and Education Officer at: maria.kervin@parracatholic.org.

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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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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Joan Paine (Maree Roach's Mother), Thelma Roach, Eileen Farrell, Janet Noonan, Esther Crambrook, Hazel Caldwell, Patricia Mungovan, Shirley Conlon and Sybil Mason.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Pat Bell, Barry Wylie, Jeanette Russell (Margaret Rivas' Friend), Joan Pace & Dorothy Collins (Janice Smith's Cousins), Chris Paine, Margaret Stevens, Lyn Beltran, Margaret Christensen, Mark Bates, Colleen Nolan, Lyn Downes, Terry Stevens, Jacqui Visser, Joanne Macrae, Sophie Hollies, Maddison Farrugia, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Pam Clyne, Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson), Diosdado Roque (Geraldine Agahari's Father) and Joan Periera (Marcia Periera's Sister).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Bernadette Greig, Barbara Fisher, Raymond McSweeney, Barbara Short, Alexandra Jankowski, Cecilia Mitchell, Stephanie Webber, Edward Parslow, Agnes Auckett, John Gillian, Margaret O'Hare, Paul Moore, Margaret Hunt, Charlotte Mansour, Marie Lutton and Patricia Flynn.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 17TH & 18TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Vince Dobson	Carl Moll	Stuart Sheary
Senior Server	Vince Dobson	Carl Moll	Martin Rogers
Junior Servers			Zoe Wilson, Dominic Sheary & Tim Kensey
Warden	Lorraine Brown	Kevin Goener	Frank Fitzpatrick
1 st Reading	Maire Griffin	Kevin Lloyd	Peter or Trish Hurley
2nd Reading	Gideon Goosen	Margaret Dickson	Annis Nilsson
Intercession	Margaret Moore	John Isaksen	Frank Fitzpatrick
Music	Cantabile		N/A
IT Operators	Thais Turner	Elizabeth Konza	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Allan & Eileen Jones	Kay Whitty	The Wilson Family
Communion	Gwen Cullinan	Helen Keogh	Carmel Higgins
Cashiers	Bernadette Shalala & Erika McNay		
Children's Liturgy	Danielle		
Piety Stall	Lee Jackson		
Church Care	Youth Group		
Hospitality	Trish & Peter Hurley, Irene and Bert Adamson		

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