



# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST KING OF THE UNIVERSE - Year C**  
 19th & 20th November 2022

**2 Samuel 5:1-3; Psalm 121; Colossians 1:12-20; Luke 23:35-43**

## FR JOE'S MUSINGS

### Christ, the King

Essentially a magnification of the Feast of the Ascension, the Solemnity of Christ the King was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925. Originally it was celebrated on the last Sunday in October, but in the revised liturgical calendar promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1969 it was moved to the last Sunday of Ordinary Time (immediately preceding Advent), where its theme of Christ's dominion over all aspects of our lives made it a fitting end to the liturgical year. The festival is also observed in Lutheran, Anglican, and other Protestant churches.

Why is it so important today? What does the "Power" of Christ consist in? It is not the power of the kings or the great people of this world; it is the divine power to give eternal life, to liberate from evil, to defeat the dominion of death. It is the power of Love that can draw good from evil, that can melt a hardened heart, bring peace amid the harshest conflict and kindle hope in the thickest darkness. This Kingdom of Grace is never imposed and always respects our freedom. Christ came "to bear witness to the truth" (Jn 18: 37), as he declared to Pilate: whoever accepts his witness serves beneath his "banner."

Every conscience, therefore, must make a choice. Choosing Christ does not guarantee success according to the world's criteria but assures the peace and joy that he alone can give us. This is demonstrated, in every epoch, by the experience of numerous men and women who, in Christ's name, in the name of truth and justice, were able to oppose the enticements of earthly powers with their different masks, to the point that they sealed their fidelity with martyrdom.

This Sunday 20th November at 9.30am Mass, we will joyfully receive Kate, David, Amy, Chloe and Oliver into the full communion with the Catholic church. By the grace of God and help of the Holy Spirit, they have freely chosen to be members of the Catholic Church. We thank them for their faith and commitment. I hope that they find at St Finbar's a welcoming place and nourishing community. Thank you also to Margaret Richards and Peter Brown who have accompanied and prepared them for this celebration.

Fr Andrew Rooney who, as a Deacon, has ministered here at St Finbar from November 2021 to May 2022, will celebrate his Thanksgiving Mass on 27<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30am. Please join Fr Andrew in this celebration and give thanks and praise to God for Fr Andrew's priestly ministry.

On the same Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> November at 5.30pm, Seminarian Tom Green will be ordained to the Diaconate by Bishop Vincent Long OFMConv. in Blacktown (Mary, Queen of the Family Parish). Tom's parents live in Blaxland and his brother Jack Green is a priest of our diocese. Jack is currently undertaking his post-graduate studies at the University of Oxford. Tom has extended his invitation to all parishioners to attend his ordination.

*Please continue reading on page 2*

## PARISH INFORMATION

### Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam

E-mail: [joseph.lam@parracatholic.org](mailto:joseph.lam@parracatholic.org)

### Secretary: Juliana Khnouf

E-mail: [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au)

### Admin: Peter McMahon

E-mail: [admin@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:admin@stfinbars.org.au)

### PPC:

E-mail: [stfinbarsppc@gmail.com](mailto:stfinbarsppc@gmail.com)

### Office Hours: 9.30am – 3.00pm

Tuesday to Friday

(Closed on Mondays)

Office Phone: (02) 47426958

**Emergency Number: 0493 451 990**

### 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](http://www.stfinbars.org.au)

### Facebook:

Glenbrook Catholic  
Church St Finbars

### Parish School: Principal

Mrs Robyn Clarke

Phone: 4724 3600

***Congratulations to our RCIA candidates who are going to be Confirmed and receive 1st Holy Communion this weekend. We pray that the Body and Blood of Christ may graciously nourish them.***

## CHRISTMAS ROSTER

Parishioners are invited to nominate themselves if qualified for the Liturgical Roles at one of our four Christmas Masses. There is a blank roster on the notice board in the Narthex near the Warden's table. Please write your name against any one ministry vacancy that you can fill. Thank you for all your help and support.

## 2023 RELIGIOUS CALENDARS

Are now available at the Wardens table. Franciscan calendars are \$7 and Columban calendars are \$10. Proceeds for sale go to Glenbrook St Vincent de Paul Society.

## WELCOME

## WE ACKNOWLEDGE

*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. 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.*

# PARISH CALENDAR

# DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

<b>Sunday</b> <b>20th November</b> <i>OUR LORD JESUS</i> <i>CHRIST, KING OF THE</i> <i>UNIVERSE</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> Live Streaming Link <a href="https://youtu.be/4VtAKekwgdQ">https://youtu.be/4VtAKekwgdQ</a> 1.00pm Bridge Club P/C <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b> 7.00pm "The Lounge" Senior Youth Group P/C
<b>Monday</b> <b>21st November</b> <i>The Presentation of</i> <i>the Blessed Virgin</i> <i>Mary</i>	<b>No Mass. Office is closed</b> 1.00pm SRE Meeting M/R 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>22nd November</b> <i>St Cecilia</i>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.30pm Netball Executive meeting M/R
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>23rd November</b>	<b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b> 9.30am Playgroup P/C 3.30pm Advent Group M/R 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C 7.00pm Dawn Willis Concert Rehearsal
<b>Thursday</b> <b>24th November</b> <i>Sts Andrew</i> <i>Dung-Lac and</i> <i>Companions</i>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.30pm Bridge Club P/C 7.00pm Concert Rehearsal 7.30pm Blue Mountains Folk Dance P/C
<b>Friday</b> <b>25th November</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.00pm Bowlers <b>7.00pm Adoration</b>
<b>Saturday</b> <b>26th November</b>	8.00am Advent Group M/R <b>9.15am Mass</b> 11.30am Te Deum's Choir Practice 2.00pm Dawn Willis Concert 4.30pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b> Live Streaming Link <a href="https://youtu.be/WDrvaDenA8A">https://youtu.be/WDrvaDenA8A</a> 7.00pm Volunteers Christmas Dinner P/C
<b>Sunday</b> <b>27th November</b> <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> <i>Year A</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Thanksgiving Mass for Fr Andrew</b> <b>Rooney followed by morning tea.</b> 10.30am Connect Advent Group P/C 3.00pm Academy Singers Concert

## Bishop's Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care's Assistance with Care and Housing Service

No one should be homeless or without support. Your Christmas gift today will enable Catholic Care to give homeless people practical and emotional support, and a safe place to call home.

Please stretch out your hand to the poor and give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal envelopes, at

[yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal) or scan this QR code.

Thank you for your prayers, heart-felt compassion, and help to end homelessness.

## "OUO VADIS?" PILGRIMAGE TO ISRAEL

### AND ROME: 5 – 23 SEPTEMBER 2023

At the request of many of his previous pilgrims, Fr Wim Hoekstra is leading a pilgrimage to Israel and Rome next year.

Our pilgrimage will be following in the footsteps of St Peter.

Details are available for download via [this link](#) or the QR code. If you need further details, please contact Fr Wim on 0409908361 or email [wim.hoekstra@parractholic.org](mailto:wim.hoekstra@parractholic.org)

## FR JOE MUSINGS—Continued from page 1

As you know St Finbar's community is a welcoming parish. We need people in ministry whose sole focus is greeting people. Greeters do more than merely saluting people upon arrival; Church greeters serve a vital function of expressing the welcome of Christ to those who enter your church building:

It may be a simple smile and handshake. It may be eye contact while handing a person a church bulletin. It may be small talk and an offer of prayer after the service.

If you would like to be on the regular roster of greeters, please contact Juliana ([secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au)).

## Deanery Pastoral Council Initiative

CatholicCare in Springwood support vulnerable families in our local area through the provision of counselling support, housing assistance and supply of necessary personal and household items.

CatholicCare have asked us to appeal to parishes in the Deanery to provide some of these essential items in the lead-up to Christmas. They have provided suggestions for needed items:

**Fruit cake, Lollies, Biscuits, Poppers, Savoury items such as crackers/crisps, Tinned fruit, Muesli Bars, Cereal, Personal care/toiletries-shampoo/conditioner, body wash, deodorant, moisturiser.**

Over the following two weekends there will be collection boxes in the narthex of the church. Please consider donating some of these items if you are able.

## SVDP CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2022

### Christmas Hampers

This year we will be following the format where families, groups or individuals make up and donate a full hamper or contribute items to be included in a hamper. A list of suggested hamper items is available from the warden's table.

***Please ensure that all food items have an expiry date well past New Year.***

### Christmas Gift Tree

The Christmas Gift tree will be put up during the week commencing 20 November and if parishioners wish to support this activity then please take a blue or pink tag from the tree or wardens table, purchase a gift for a child as suggested on the tag and return the Christmas wrapped gift with the tag securely attached to the outside.

**All hampers items and gifts will need to be left at the church no later than Thursday 15 December 2022.**

### Volunteers

We will need helpers at 9.00am on Saturday 17 December to assist with the delivery of the hampers. If you are able to assist us with this task send an SMS message to 0413 549 518 and include your name and contact details.

### Poor Box Donations

All donations to the Poor Box till the end of January will count towards our Christmas Appeal. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated and will support our work over the Christmas period and into 2023. If you want to make a larger donation and require a receipt for taxation purposes please contact Vince Dobson personally or through the Parish Office. ***We will be holding a leaving collection after each Mass on the weekend 10/11 December 2022.***

Thank you, fellow parishioners, for your generosity in helping a family put food on the table this Christmas.

## ADVENT RETREAT

Jesus The Greatest Gift from God  
**Saturday 10th December 2022—9am to 3pm**  
RSVP to [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au)

**PIETY STALL** has new Christmas decorations and cards. Don't forget to check it out after Mass today.

**ADVENT SEASON.** As we will soon journey through the seasons of Advent and Christmas this year, you are invited to join us as we reflect on the wonder of the incarnation of Jesus Christ. There will be two Advent groups, Wednesday afternoon at 3:30pm and Saturday morning at 8.00am in the Parish Meeting Room. The 1st Group meeting will start Wednesday the 23rd of November and 2nd Group will start Saturday the 26th of November.

**Mass for those Bereaved by Suicide** - Catholic Care Western Sydney and Blue Mountains together with the Diocese of Parramatta invite those bereaved by suicide to a celebration of Mass to honour loved ones who have taken their lives. There will be light refreshments after the Mass. **Date:** Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 - **Time:** 7.15pm for 7.30pm Mass **Venue:** St. Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta. For more information and to **RSVP for catering purposes** please contact Rita at Catholic Care on 8843 2500 or email [rita.chater@ccss.org.au](mailto:rita.chater@ccss.org.au)

## 2023 EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE + FIESTA

Once again, the parishes of the Blue Mountains Deanery will host the Epiphany Pilgrimage from 2 – 8 January 2023. You can be part of the celebrations and help welcome the pilgrims to our beautiful mountains by:

- ✦ Participating in the full pilgrimage or otherwise joining for one or more days of bushwalking
  - ✦ Praying and celebrating with them at the Blue Mountains parishes along the way
  - ✦ Assisting with the festive meal when they visit us at St Finbars on Mon, Jan 2 2023
  - ✦ Writing prayer intentions for the pilgrims to pray on your behalf (see prayer box at the church entrance)
- Children are welcome to join the fun: Day 1 (Mon, Jan 2) is a family-friendly pilgrimage walk finishing with a jumping castle and fiesta here at Finnies!

To register for the pilgrimage and for more information, visit [www.epiphanypilgrimage.org](http://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org)

To assist with the meal and fiesta at Finnies, contact Lucie: 0424 793 359

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**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Emma Griffin, Louis Donato (Maire Griffin relatives), John Mullane, Ken Townsend, Pam Clyne, Stephen Critchley, Eileen Farrell and Janet Noonan.

**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), Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson), Diosdado Roque (Geraldine Agahari's Father), Rhondda Masters (Janice Smith's Sister) and Joan Periera (Marcia Periera's Sister).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:**

Lillian Mitchell, Julie Stone, 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 26TH & 27TH NOVEMBER 2022**

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 Servers	Harrison Bohan		Benjamin Grus & Abigail Stanford
Warden	Huia Kingi	Volunteer Please	Gary Clune
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Eileen Jones	Kevin Lloyd	Cecelia Zammit
2nd Reading	Philomena Watkins	Andrew Teece	Michelle Wilson
Intercession	Katy Ferris	Carl Moll	Yvonne Scanlan
Music	Te Deum's		Holy Light
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Patrick Watson	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Steve & Heather Lee	Rivas Family	The Young Family
Communion	Noreen Taylor	Volunteer Please	Mila Svehla
Cashiers	Robyn Flynn		
Children's Liturgy	Danielle		
Piety Stall	Ann Marie King		
Church Care	Volunteers Please		
Hospitality	Marie Nassif, Kerry & Peter Herborn		
Lawn Mowing	Tony Doyle & Helen Keogh. Volunteers needed please		



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