



# The Barra

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

**The Epiphany of the Lord**

7th & 8th January 2023

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

## Fr Joe's Musings

### Farewell to Benedict XVI: 'Humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord. The Spiritual Testament of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

When, at this late hour of my life, I look back on the decades I have wandered through, I see first of all how much reason I have to give thanks. Above all, I thank God Himself, the giver of all good gifts, who has given me life and guided me through all kinds of confusion; who has always picked me up when I began to slip, who has always given me anew the light of his countenance. In retrospect, I see and understand that even the dark and arduous stretches of this path were for my salvation and that He guided me well in those very stretches. I thank my parents, who gave me life in difficult times and prepared a wonderful home for me with their love, which shines through all my days as a bright light until today. My father's clear-sighted faith taught us brothers and sisters to believe and stood firm as a guide in the midst of all my scientific knowledge; my mother's heartfelt piety and great kindness remain a legacy for which I cannot thank her enough. My sister has served me selflessly and full of kind concern for decades; my brother has always paved the way for me with the clear-sightedness of his judgements, with his powerful determination, and with the cheerfulness of his heart; without this ever-new going ahead and going along, I would not have been able to find the right path. I thank God from the bottom of my heart for the many friends, men and women, whom He has always placed at my side; for the co-workers at all stages of my path; for the teachers and students He has given me. I gratefully entrust them all to His goodness. And I would like to thank the Lord for my beautiful home in the Bavarian foothills of the Alps, in which I was able to see the splendour of the Creator Himself shining through time and again. I thank the people of my homeland for allowing me to experience the beauty of faith time and again. I pray that our country will remain a country of faith and I ask you, dear compatriots, not to let your faith be distracted. Finally, I thank God for all the beauty I was able to experience during the various stages of my journey, but especially in Rome and in Italy, which has become my second home. I ask for forgiveness from the bottom of my heart from all those whom I have wronged in some way. What I said earlier of my compatriots, I now say to all who were entrusted to my service in the Church: Stand firm in the faith! Do not be confused! Often it seems as if science - on the one hand, the natural sciences; on the other, historical research (especially the exegesis of the Holy Scriptures) - has irrefutable insights to offer that are contrary to the Catholic faith. I have witnessed from times long past the changes in natural science and have seen how apparent certainties against the faith vanished, proving themselves not to be science but philosophical interpretations only apparently belonging to science - just as, moreover, it is in dialogue with the natural sciences that faith has learned to understand the limits of the scope of its affirmations and thus its own specificity. For 60 years now, I have accompanied the path of theology, especially biblical studies, and have seen seemingly unshakeable theses collapse with the changing generations, which turned out to be mere hypotheses: the liberal generation (Harnack, Jülicher, etc.), the existentialist generation (Bultmann, etc.), the Marxist generation. I have seen, and see, how, out of the tangle of hypotheses, the reasonableness of faith has emerged and is emerging anew. Jesus Christ is truly the Way, the Truth, and the Life - and the Church, in all her shortcomings, is truly His Body.

Finally, I humbly ask: pray for me, so that the Lord may admit me to the eternal dwellings, despite all my sins and shortcomings. For all those entrusted to me, my heartfelt prayer goes out day after day.

*Benedictus PP XVI*

<b>Sunday 8th January</b> <i>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b>
<b>Monday 9th January</b> <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>	<b>No Mass. Office is closed</b>
<b>Tuesday 10th January</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday 11th January</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C
<b>Thursday 12th January</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.00pm Bridge Club P/C
<b>Friday 13th January</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.00pm Bowlers P/C
<b>Saturday 14th January</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> <b>4.30pm Confessions</b> <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday 15th January</b> <i>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Year A</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> Live Streaming Link <a href="https://youtu.be/TBna_jVJ1c">https://youtu.be/TBna_jVJ1c</a> 1.30pm Bridge Club P/C

## 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:**

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### **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

**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.*

**ROSTER FOR 14TH & 15TH JANUARY 2023**

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 Server			Zoe Wilson, Dominic Sheary & Tim Kensey
Warden	Lorraine Brown	Volunteer Please	Frank Fitzpatrick
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Maire Griffin	Kevin Lloyd	Peter or Trish Hurley
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Gideon Goosen	Margaret Dickson	Annissa Nilsson
Intercession	Margaret Moore	John Isaksen	Frank Fitzpatrick
I.T Operators	Henry Hanko	Elizabeth Konza	Patrick Watson
Musician	<b>No Music</b>	<b>During Mass</b>	<b>In January</b>
Presentation of the Gifts	Allan & Eileen Jones	Kay Whitty	The Wilson Family
Minister of Communion	Bernie Fisher	Jessica Tiller	Annissa Nilsson
Cashier	Joe Grange		
Church Care	Catherine Marceau, Jane Lennon, Christyna Lloyd, Beth Killeen & Camilla Lobo		
Hospitality	Trish & Peter Hurley, Irene & Bert Aligno		

**New Year's Dash: Face-to-Face Safeguarding Training Opportunities to Kick Off the New Year!****Have you had a chance to complete your Safeguarding Training yet?**

April 2023 will mark the first two years of our Mandatory Safeguarding Training Program. This year over 700 people across the Diocese have completed their training in face-to-face sessions. For those who are yet to complete their initial Mandatory Safeguarding Modules, we are offering a 'New Year's Dash' Package of Training Opportunities in readiness for ministry in 2023. Contact the Parish Office to find locations, days of the week and times of Training Packages that best suit you. You can register for these by emailing:

[safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org). Of course, you are still most welcome to 'sign up' to our online Safeguarding Training Platform at: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>. In the meantime, thank you all for your support and commitment to making Parishes safe for children and adults at risk. I have had a wonderful year meeting many of you from parishes around the Diocese.

**Maria Kervin (Community Engagement and Education Officer, [maria.kervin@parracatholic.org](mailto:maria.kervin@parracatholic.org))**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Barry Wylie, 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, 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:**

Christopher Appleton, Patrick Dempster, Francis Amaral, Geoffrey Clayton, Robert Pope, Phillip Dowding, Lyndsay Walmsley, Patrick Egan, Lesly Whitford, Lachlan Turnbull, Olive O'Neill, Reginald Moore, Doris Gibson, Darcie Pizarro and James Mulvey.