

# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year A  
28th & 29th January 2023

**Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13; Ps 145; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 5:1-12**

## FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Dear Friends,

As we are celebrating Australian Day we give thanks and praise to God for giving us this country and bringing us together.

Modern Australia enjoys the richness of many cultures. **Australia Day** is a day to reflect, respect and celebrate the Australian spirit and the best of this country.

Let us, however, not forget, that the Australian spirit is also shaped by the Spirit of our First Nations sisters and brothers who have lived here over 60000 years.

Recently, I read the book "People of the River: The Lost World of Early Australia" by the prominent historian Grace Karskens who recounts the history of the Dyarubbin, the Hawkesbury-Nepean River where the two early Australias - ancient and modern - first collided. *People of the River* journeys into the lost worlds of the Aboriginal people and the settlers of Dyarubbin, both complex worlds with ancient roots.

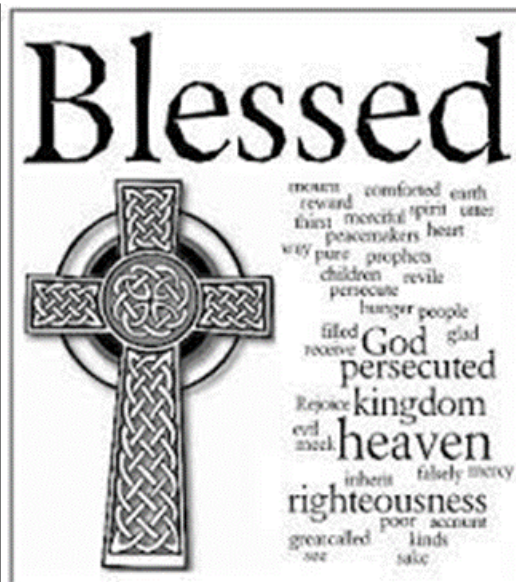
We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the Traditional Custodians of this land, with deep respect. May the Elders, past and present, be blessed and honoured. May we join together and build a future based on compassion, justice, hope, faith, and reconciliation.

The Legacy of Pope Benedict (1927-2023):

The unexpected way Pope Benedict helped me learn to pray with all creation. By Damian Costello—*Continued from previously*.

If you pray with all of creation, it changes your relationship with it from one of possession to one of kinship, from sustainability to right relationship. Francis fleshes this out more fully in his encyclical "Laudato Si', on Care for Our Common Home," but it's there in Benedict's theology, too. "It is imperative that mankind renew and strengthen 'that covenant between human beings and the environment, which should mirror the creative love of God, from whom we come and towards whom we are journeying,' " Benedict said in his 2010 World Day of Peace message. Indigenous author Robin Wall Kimmerer in her book *Braiding Sweetgrass* says that an Indigenous ceremony does multifaceted work: unites people in a common vision, forges spiritual connection to land and fosters the integrity of the ecosystem. She asks non-Indigenous peoples how, through ceremony, "Can we extend our bonds of celebration and support from our own species to the others who need us?" I think Benedict did, in a nascent yet real way, even using the same language of reciprocity and healing that Kimmerer often uses.

*Please continue reading on the 2nd page*



## 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

## 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.*

# PARISH CALENDAR

<b>Sunday 29th January</b> <i>4th Sunday of in Ordinary Time Year A</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> Live Streaming Link <a href="https://youtu.be/dltvwv4kgTE">https://youtu.be/dltvwv4kgTE</a>
<b>Monday 30th January</b>	<b>No Mass. Office is closed</b> 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R
<b>Tuesday 31st January</b> <i>St John Bosco</i>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.30pm February Baptism Preparation meeting M/R
<b>Wednesday 1st February</b>	<b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b> 9.30am Playgroup P/C <b>10.30am Christopher Auckett's Funeral Service</b> 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C
<b>Thursday 2nd February</b> <i>The Presentation of the Lord</i>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.30pm Bridge Club P/C
<b>Friday 3rd February</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.00pm Bowlers
<b>Saturday 4th February</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b> 11.30am Te Deum's Choir Practice 4.30pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday 5th February</b> <i>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b> Live Streaming Link <a href="https://youtu.be/AThj-2B2e30">https://youtu.be/AThj-2B2e30</a> 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C



## FR JOE'S MUSINGS

### *Continued from page 1*

"Creation, history, and worship are in a relationship of reciprocity," Benedict wrote, saying also that worship "not only saves mankind but is also meant to draw the whole of reality into communion with God," and liturgy contains within it an "aspect of healing, the loving transformation of broken freedom, of painful expiation." Given more time, I think Benedict would have more explicitly connected these logical and beautifully integral theological dots, primarily because of his view of the liturgy. Now it's up to us to honour his legacy and cultivate this work, allowing our liturgies to become the healing ceremonies of reciprocity between God and all beings that Benedict envisioned.

Presiding at the 2012 canonization Mass for St. Kateri Tekakwitha, patron of ecology and the first Indigenous North American saint, Benedict said, "In her, faith and culture enrich each other!" Reflecting on the life of Benedict, I would say that in him, the liturgy and creation enrich each other. We send up our prayers that God welcomes Benedict home. And after a lifetime of praying together, I think all creation does too.

## DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES

### **Sr Nathalie Becquart speaking at St Patrick's Cathedral – 3 February**

Sr Nathalie Becquart XMCJ, Undersecretary of the Synod of Bishops, will be in Parramatta as part of her Australian tour, speaking at a public forum from 4pm-5.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta, followed by a public lecture from 7pm-8.30pm in the Cathedral. (The public lecture will also be live-streamed for those unable to make the gathering.)

**Places are filling up fast, so to register, please visit** [https://parracatholic.org/srnathalie\\_syd/](https://parracatholic.org/srnathalie_syd/)

If you have any questions about the Sr Nathalie visit, please contact Anita Sulentic, Head of Communications & Engagement, via [comms@parracatholic.org](mailto:comms@parracatholic.org)

### **Positions Vacant:**

Parish Office Administration Assistant – St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood.  
 More details at: [parracatholic.org/employment](https://parracatholic.org/employment)

### **Ordination to the Presbyterate: 2 February**

Bishop Vincent Long and the Diocese of Parramatta invite you to the Ordination to the Presbyterate of Adam Carlow, Matthew Dimian and Jack Elkazzi on Thursday 2 February at 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Please RSVP to the Cathedral Parish team at [secretary@stpatrcathedral.com.au](mailto:secretary@stpatrcathedral.com.au) if you are able to attend.

We hope you will be able to join us at this joyous event for our Diocese and our faith community.



## Please add the following parish events to your diary:

- **Office Hours**  
The office hours will go back to normal 9.30am to 3pm from Wednesday the 1st of February.
- **Parish AGM Meeting:**  
The AGM meeting will be on Sunday the 19th of February after the 9.30am Mass in the Parish Hall.
- **Youth Group**  
Youth Mass and Youth Group will be back on Sunday the 5th of February
- **RCIA program commence soon**  
If you know anyone who would be interested to become member of St Finbar's and the Catholic Church, please invite them to come and see. Give Father Joe a call to discuss it.

## WALKING TOGETHER

AN ULURU STATEMENT FROM  
THE HEART WORKSHOP  
for residents of the Blue Mountains  
and Penrith areas

19TH FEBRUARY 2023, SPRINGWOOD  
Registrations essential



## OFFICE PHONES

Please note that the parish phone currently is not working. If you need to contact the parish please email us or leave a message on the answering service and I will ring you back. Sorry for the inconvenience.

## LENTEN GROUPS

Lent is early this year and so is Ash Wednesday—it is on 22nd February. The parish is organising some Lenten Groups to meet once a week during Lent, and needs to get an idea of numbers so sufficient books can be ordered. If you would like to be part of one of the groups please add your name to the list which will be in the Narthex of the Church this weekend 28/29 January.

You are invited to an **ENQUIRY SESSION on TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY** at Emu Plains about fortnightly facilitated small groups, to explore this question: **WHO IS JESUS in St Matthew's Gospel?** Day and Evening groups start the week beginning 27 February. **Inquiries** Jim Potts 0421 125 722 (We can discuss your preferences for a time on both 14 Feb and a day/ time for the ongoing meetings).

You are also invited to join **Dr Laurie Woods**, spiritual writer and Scripture scholar, for an interactive exploration of: **Living the Spirituality of Matthew's Gospel in 2023. Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February, 9am-12.30 pm** Parish Hall, Emu Plains. **RSVP** 18 February to Jim Potts 0421 125 722

**"St Thomas Aquinas Parish, SPRINGWOOD has signed up for 2023 Clean Up AUSTRALIA day and invites YOU to join in!!"**

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March from 9:00am until 11:30am, you are invited to clean up the area around our Church environment. **Bring your own water, gloves and tongs!!** No costs - just the reward of doing something to keep the Planet cleaner.

St Thomas Aquinas Springwood is a *Catholic Earthcare* Parish."

## Bateman Battersby LAWYERS

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

- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| • Property Law    | • Family Law        |
| • Business Law    | • Negligence Law    |
| • Wills & Estates | • Court Appearances |

**Phone: 02 47315899**

**[www.batemanbattersby.com.au](http://www.batemanbattersby.com.au)**

**[Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au](mailto:Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au)**

BEAUTIFUL  
SIMPLE  
FAREWELLS

4735 6900 [gracefunerals.com.au](http://gracefunerals.com.au)

**GRACE FUNERALS**

Formerly Lady of Grace Funerals

PENRITH | BLUE MOUNTAINS | WESTERN SYDNEY



**Turner  
Freeman**  
Lawyers Est. 1952

Turner Freeman Lawyers have been  
providing members of the community  
with outstanding legal services since  
1952 in the following areas:  
Personal injury claims |  
Wills & estate planning | Property law |  
Deceased estates & will disputes

Suite 4, 311 High Street Penrith NSW 2750

4729 5200

**[www.turnerfreeman.com.au](http://www.turnerfreeman.com.au)**

**[Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au](mailto:Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au)**



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Jacqui Visser's Sister-in-law, Matthew Tuckleman, George Hauswirth, Leigh Cuneen & Steve Donoghue (Patrick Watson's friends), Mary Nelson, Barry Wylie, Peter Friel, Emma Griffin, Louis Donato (Maire Griffin relatives) and John Mullane.

**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 & Michael Nolan, Lyn Downes, Terry Stevens, Jacqui Visser, Joanne Macrae, Sophie Hollies, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Harrison Maddison Farrugia, 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:**

Elsie Frontain (Jeannine Ashbee's Mum), Rosanna OLoughlin, Michael O'Connor, Dr. Michael McGirr, Jeremy Crawley, Paul Hammerton, Henriette Harrington, Monica Cashman, Peter Burrett, Fredrick Casey, John Halligan, Lillie Ferrie, Amanda McCulloch, Olive O'Neill, Thomas Nolan and Stella Ryan.

**LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR THE 4TH & 5TH FEBRUARY 2023**

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Peter McMahon	Carl Moll	Gerard Egan
Senior Server	Peter McMahon	Carl Moll	Lukas Rajnoch
Junior Servers	Alex & Luc Nilsson		Xavier Rajnoch
Warden	Vince Dobson	Volunteer Please	Justin Dowling
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Philomena Watkins	Michelle Wilson	Jessica Doherty
2nd Reading	Katy Ferris	John Killeen	Steve Baird
Intercession	Elizabeth Konza	Kevin Flynn	Martin Rogers
Music	Naomi's Group	N/A	Jenny Long & Ann Hobbs
IT Operators	Eleanor Thompson	Kylie Mills	Patrick Watson
Gifts	Noreen Taylor & Janice Smith	Maria Heinzl & Stanis Drobiszewski	Volunteers Please
Communion	Vince Dobson	John Killeen	Wendy Brown
Cashiers	Joe Grange		
Children's Liturgy			
Piety Stall	Carmel Higgins		
Church Care	Volunteers Please		
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek and Vicky Ang		
Lawn Mower club	Kevin Debeck, Rob Lennon & John Killeen		



**Ballimino's**  
CAFE & PIZZERIA  
EST. 2019

BREAKFAST | LUNCH | DINNER  
OPEN 7 DAYS - 9AM TILL LATE - FULLY LICENSED

SHOP 2/5 ROSS STREET, GLENBROOK NSW 2773 | (02) 4739 6582



We value cost and care as much as you do

**BLUE MOUNTAINS FUNERALS**

KATOOMBA | SPRINGWOOD | EMU PLAINS  
4751 6166 | bluemountainsfunerals.com.au