



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD—Year A
8th & 9th April 2023

Acts 10:34, 37-43; Ps 117; Colossians 3:1-4 ; Matthew 28:1-10

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Christ is Risen, AND so we are too!

Before I am accused of blasphemy or impiety for saying "We are risen" after "Christ is risen," please hear me out. I don't in any way intend to demean the unique, universe-transforming resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Christian life is centred in the extraordinary good news of Easter: Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! The resurrection changes everything.



Christ's resurrection is the central event of Christianity, a fundamental truth that must be always reaffirmed with vigor, as to deny it in different ways, as has been attempted and continues to be attempted, or to transform it into a merely spiritual event is to make our faith vain. "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:14).

But, if we take seriously the impact and implications of the resurrection, then we can and should affirm something beyond "Christ is risen." This additional affirmation depends for its validity on the fact of the resurrection of Jesus. Moreover, it stands on the bedrock of biblical revelation, especially as found in Ephesians 2:1-7. This passage reveals that we were once "dead in [our] transgressions and sins" (2:1). But God, because of his great love, mercy, and grace, "made us alive with Christ" (2:5). Moreover, God also "raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus" (2:6). God raised us up with Christ. Therefore, in a sense, we are risen.

Our resurrection today is part of the "already and not yet" experience of God's future kingdom that is coming and yet also here with us now. Though we have not been fully and finally raised from the dead, through Christ and in his Spirit, we begin to experience the reality of the resurrection now.

Thus, in the season of Easter, we do not simply look back to the resurrection of Jesus and marvel, though awestruck worship is certainly merited. Rather, we also look toward the future, yearning for the day when we will be completely raised into the peace of God's kingdom. And during Eastertide, we also look at our own lives to see if we are living each day as people who have begun to experience resurrection. Are we people of strong faith? Do we see in our lives the very power that raised Christ from the dead? Are we full of hope, even in the midst of struggles and sufferings? Is there evidence of the new creation in our daily lives, our work, our dreams, our relationships, our citizenship?

Please continue reading on page 3

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED AFTER EASTER.

Please note that the parish office will be closed Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week. No morning Masses on these days.

Also please note that on Friday the 14th of April there won't be a 9.15am Mass as the parish will be having Joe Grange's Funeral at 10.30am. May he rest in peace.

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam

E-mail: joseph.lam@parracatholic.org

Secretary: Juliana Khnouf

E-mail: secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Admin: Peter McMahan

E-mail: admin@stfinbars.org.au

PPC:

E-mail: stfinbarsppc@gmail.com

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

Office Phone: (02) 47426958

Emergency Number: 0493 451 990

Parish QR Code:

Please use this QR Code to donate to St Finbar's Parish Glenbrook using your Credit Card, or to make any payments. Please select from the list.



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

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 9th April</p> <p><i>Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass</p> <p>9.30am Mass</p>
<p>Monday 10th April</p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed</p>
<p>Tuesday 11th April</p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed</p> <p>6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p>
<p>Wednesday 12th April</p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed</p> <p>10.30am Pastoral Care Meeting M/R</p> <p>3.30pm Easter Lenten group celebration</p> <p>7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Thursday 13th April</p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed</p> <p>1.30pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Friday 14th April</p>	<p>No Morning Mass</p> <p>10.30am Joe Grange's Funeral Mass</p> <p>1.00pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p>Saturday 15th April</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>11.30am Te Deum's Choir Practice</p> <p>2.00pm Wedding</p> <p>4.30pm No Confessions</p> <p>5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 16th April 2023</p> <p><i>2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy) Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass</p> <p>9.30am Mass</p> <p>1.00pm Bridge Club</p> <p>6.00pm Youth Mass</p> <p>Live Streaming Link</p> <p>https://youtube.com/live/86DPIMW2FCU?feature=share</p> <p>7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>

Positions Vacant:

- + **Policy Coordinator** – Diocese of Parramatta
- + **Communications and Digital Manager** – Diocese of Parramatta
- + **Communications Assistant** – Diocese of Parramatta

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

Thank You for Supporting our Holy Spirit Seminarians

Bishop Vincent, Parramatta Catholic Foundation, and our Holy Spirit seminarians thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support for our future priests.



Our Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal raised significant funds which will help our Holy Spirit Seminary to support the faithful men who have answered God's call to become priests for His people. For anyone who hasn't had a chance to donate, please

visit yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan this QR code.

Please continue to pray for the Diocesan ministries supported by Parramatta Catholic Foundation, including our Holy Spirit Seminarians and all those who contribute to their education, formation, and care.

CCD St Matthew's Gospel Series: Starting 28 April

CCD is hosting Dr Laurie Woods presenting A Study of St Matthew's Gospel - April 28; May 5, 12, 19 & 26. 10 am to 2pm at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. To book please email Maree Collis

ccd.training@parracatholic.org

MET Worship Liturgical Music Workshop: 4th May

Musicians, Clergy & Liturgy Planners are invited to attend a Music Workshop Presented by Eric Grella on Singing the Psalms & Chant on Thursday 4 May from 7pm to 8:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. RSVP by 1 May to

hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org

The FaithFeed On The Move: 7th May

Have questions about life & faith? Join with others on the search at The FaithFeed live studio audience - hosted by Glenbrook in the Mountains Deanery – all are welcome! The FaithFeed will be on Sunday 7 May at the parish hall after the 6PM mass. Doors open 7:00PM for a 7:30PM start. The night will feature faith stories + live music + activities + great conversation.

Book now: <https://tinyurl.com/tffrego>



FR JOE'S MUSINGS –CONTINUE FROM PAGE 1

If Christ is truly risen, and if we have put our trust in him, then we also have been raised with him. So, Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! We are risen! We are risen, indeed and in part!

Just as the sun's rays in springtime cause the buds on the branches of the trees to sprout and open up, so the radiance that streams forth from Christ's Resurrection gives strength and meaning to every human hope, to every expectation, wish and plan. Hence the entire cosmos is rejoicing today, caught up in the springtime of humanity, which gives voice to creation's silent hymn of praise. The Easter *Alleluia*, resounding in the Church as she makes her pilgrim way through the world, expresses the silent exultation of the universe and above all the longing of every human soul that is sincerely open to God, giving thanks to him for his infinite goodness, beauty and truth.



May the Land which was the first to be flooded by the light of the Risen One rejoice. May the splendour of Christ reach the peoples of the Middle East, so that the light of peace and of human dignity may overcome the darkness of division, hate and violence. In the current conflict in Ukraine, may diplomacy and dialogue take the place of arms and may those who suffer as a result of the conflict be given access to humanitarian aid. In the countries of northern Africa, may all citizens, especially young people, work to promote the common good and to build a society where poverty is defeated and every political choice is inspired by respect for the human person. May help come from all sides to those fleeing conflict and to refugees from various African countries who have been obliged to leave all that is dear to them; may people of good will open their hearts to welcome them, so that the pressing needs of so many brothers and sisters will be met with a concerted response in a spirit of solidarity; and may our words of comfort and appreciation reach all those who make such generous efforts and offer an exemplary witness in this regard.

On this Day of the Lord's resurrection, let us also not forget to pray for our parishioners and loved ones who have returned to the Lord. May the resurrection also be granted to them.

The risen Christ is journeying ahead of us towards the new heavens and the new earth (cf. Rev 21, 1), in which we shall all finally live as one family, as sons of the same Father. He is with us until the end of time. Let us walk behind him, in this wounded world, singing *Alleluia*. In our hearts there is joy and sorrow, on our faces there are smiles and tears. Such is our earthly reality. But Christ is risen, he is alive and he walks with us. For this reason, we sing and we walk, faithfully carrying out our task in this world with our gaze fixed on Heaven.

Together with the PPC, PFC and Juliana and Peter may I wish you a wonderful and glory filled Easter.

Thank you for your generous support.

Fr Joe

PASSOVER MEAL

The Passover Meal was a great success. This year about 80 parishioners attended. Many thanks to Martin for leading the prayers and donating all the wine we used. Also a big thank you for the new Parish Events team, Jeannine Ashbee, Tamar Apkarian, Geraldine Agahari, Cecilia Zammit, Kylie Mills, Amy Goodlace and family and Clare Grus for all their hard work organising, setting up and cleaning afterwards. Also a big thank you to Annessa and Warrick for their help with the washing up. I really appreciate all your help. **Juliana Khnouf**



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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Joe Grange, Jeanette Russell (Margaret Rivas' Friend), Maria Cummins, Paul Walker, Esme Kramhoft, Christopher Auckett, Matthew Tuckleman, George Hauswirth, Mary Nelson, Barry Wylie and John Mullane.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Pope Francis, Cecily McHugh (Jacqui Visser's Daughter), Pat Bell, Chris Paine, Margaret Stevens, Lyn Beltran, Lyn Downes, Margaret Christensen, Mark Bates, Colleen & Michael Nolan, Terry Stevens, Jacqui Visser, Joanne Macrae, Sophie Hollies, Catherine Kirk (Cameron), Maddison Farrugia, Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson), Diosdado Roque (Geraldine Agahari's Father), Joan and Hubert Periera & Maureen Brown (Marcia Periera's Sister, Brother & Niece).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

John Gibson, James Sims, Wallace Whye, Margaret Noonan, John Downes, Mary McAtamney, Joan Barker, Kevin O'Duffy, Holly O'Toole, Laura Wilson, Andrew Mason and Robert Hill.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 15TH & 16TH APRIL 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 Servers			Zoe Wilson, Dominic Sheary & Tim Kensey
Warden	Lorraine Brown	Volunteer Please	Frank Fitzpatrick
1 st Reading	Maire Griffin	John Killeen	Volunteer please
2nd Reading	Gideon Goosen	Margaret Dickson	Gary Clune
Intercession	Margaret Moore	John De Mattia	Frank Fitzpatrick
Music	Te Deum's		Naomi's Group
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Elizabeth Konza	Patrick Watson
Gifts	Alan & Eileen Jones	Kay Whitty	The Wilson Family
Communion	Bernie Fisher	Helen Keogh	Irene Aligno
Cashiers	Robyn Flynn, Ann & Ray Keating		
Children's Liturgy	School Holiday		
Piety Stall	Lee Jackson		
Church Care	Volunteers Please		
Hospitality	Irene & Bert Aligno		

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