



The Barra

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

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY—Year A

3rd & 4th June 2023

Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9; Dan 3:52-56; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; John 3:16-18

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

We Walk Together By Faith, Hope and Love
Foundations for the Diocesan Synod

Introduction

There is a medieval legend that was ascribed to Augustine. While he was working on his book On the Trinity, he was walking by the seaside one day, meditating on the difficult problem of how God could be three Persons at once. He came upon a little child. The child had dug a little hole in the sand, and with a small spoon or seashell was scooping water from the sea into the small hole. Augustine watched him for a while and finally asked the child what he was doing. The child answered that he would scoop all the water from the sea and pour it into the little hole in the sand. 'What?' Augustine said. 'That is impossible. Obviously, the sea is too large and the hole too small.' 'Indeed,' said the child, 'but I will sooner draw all the water from the sea and empty it into this hole than you will succeed in penetrating the mystery of the Holy Trinity with your limited understanding.' Augustine turned away in amazement and when he looked back the child had disappeared.

As preachers, we know all too well the difficulty that Augustine was facing.

Commentary

This chapter follows the previous passage. John 3:11-21 speaks about the people's acceptance of revelation and, for the first time, about the two powers thought of as unique to God: the power to give life and the power to judge. In John 5:19-21, Jesus declares that he has been given these two powers by the Father and that he exercises them throughout his ministry. The primary theme of this Sunday's gospel is Jesus' ability to give life. Hence, Jesus' coming is not to judge, but to save the world. Here, John may have picked up on the Old Testament's profession of faith in God "who is full of compassion and pity, who is not easily angered and who shows great love and faithfulness." (Ex 34:6) The emphasis is then on the love of God that creates faith. Those who believe in Him may have eternal life through the gift of the Holy Spirit. John wonderfully captures this Trinitarian faith: "God loved the world so much that he gave his unique son so that those who believe in him might have eternal life (through the Holy Spirit)." (John 3:16). In this context of the second reading addressing the Corinthians, Paul spoke of the fellowship that we share with Jesus and with each other through the peace that the Holy Spirit creates within the community. It is striking that the peace is made concrete through the holy kiss cancelling out the kiss of Judas' betrayal. For Paul, the Trinitarian communion is the foundation of community living. In his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul identified three theological virtues that he considered crucial for a peaceful living in the community. They are the following: "constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father. (1 Thessalonians 1.3).

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PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam

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Admin: Peter McMahon

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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

Parish QR Code:

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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

SUNDAY RITE OF WELCOME

The Parish joyfully welcomes
**Jozef John Lloyd and
Finnian McCaughan**
into our Faith Community.

They are going to be
Baptised at our
Parish next weekend.
May God bless them
both.



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 4th June 2023</p> <p><i>THE MOST HOLY TRINITY</i></p> <p><i>Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass</p> <p>9.30am Mass</p> <p>6.00pm Youth Mass</p> <p>Live Streaming Link</p> <p>https://youtube.com/live/wrr4f6N4-s8?feature=share</p> <p>7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>
<p>Monday 5th June</p> <p><i>St Boniface</i></p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed</p> <p>6.30pm Finnie's Choir Practice</p>
<p>Tuesday 6th June</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C</p> <p>1.00pm SRE Reginal Commissioning Mass</p> <p>6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p> <p>7.30pm "What is your house worth" - The Future of the property market - P/C</p>
<p>Wednesday 7th June</p>	<p>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</p> <p>9.30am Playgroup P/C</p> <p>7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Thursday 8th June</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>5.00pm 1st Holy Communion Preparation Sessions P/C</p>
<p>Friday 9th June</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>1.00pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p>Saturday 10th June</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>11.30am Private Baptism.</p> <p>4.30pm Confessions</p> <p>5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 11th June 2023</p> <p><i>THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST</i></p> <p><i>Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass</p> <p>9.30am Mass</p> <p>10.45am Baptisms</p>

Positions Vacant:

✦ Claims and Legal Officer – Diocese of Parramatta – Applications close **10pm Monday 5 June 2023.**

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

Save Calvary Hospital

There is a petition to the Members of the ACT Legislative Assembly to reverse a decision of the ACT government to compulsorily acquire Calvary Hospital in Canberra. This removes the ownership and management from Calvary Health Care – a Catholic operator – and gives the ownership to the government-run, non-faith-based Canberra Health Services instead. To find out more about the implications of this decision and to sign the petition please visit: www.savecalvary.com.au

MARY O’SULLIVAN

Mary O’Sullivan passed away in Melbourne last week. Her Memorial Mass will be at our parish on Tuesday the 20th of June at 10.30am followed by morning tea. Mary was a teacher at St Finbar’s school for years and so many people knew her. It would be appreciated if you can help by bringing a plate to share or by helping on the day with setting up and serving. May she Rest in Peace.

Charles Tarbey
Parishioner, Author and
Chairman of 21st Century Australasia



You are invited to an Information Night at St Finbar Catholic Parish

Charles Tarbey will speak on

What is your house worth – the Future of the Property Market

Tuesday, 6 June 2023, at 7.30pm

Please RSVP your attendance to

secretary@stfinbars.org.au

CONSULTATION ON INTERFAITH RELATIONS / INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE

You are warmly invited to attend a consultation on *Interfaith Relations* forming part of the Diocese of Parramatta Synod. This consultation *will focus exclusively on interreligious dialogue.*

Bishop Bede Heather Centre,
Marion St Blacktown, **6.30 – 9.00pm Tuesday 13 June 2023**

Invited guests will include a Muslim woman speaker and a Hindu priest speaker. Majority of the time will be spent in spiritual conversations in small groups. Contact Irene Aligno via the parish office for more information.

Fr Joe's Musings continued from page 1

Hence, the trinity of faith, hope and love. In this trinitarian structure of faith, hope and love, Paul regarded faith and love as our breastplate. A breastplate defends the heart, the source of faith and love. Hope is a helmet, armour which protects the head. Hope of salvation is the intellectual core of our redemption—God's promise of what we will be. Heart and head, faith, love and hope. These are the Church's guiding and community building virtues. To walk by faith, we need the Church. When Paul calls us to put on the helmet of salvation and to trust God in every moment of our lives, he is writing to a community of believers gathered to hear his words. We walk by faith well when we walk by faith together. Paul also calls the church to live in hope. He is specifically calling the church to the hope we have in Jesus Christ—the hope of the gospel. The hope based on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. The hope of the forgiveness of our sin and of eternal life. This gospel hope is not just an individual hope; it is a communal hope: "Our hope is resurrection, life lived in the company of all the saints." Yet, the greatest of the three is love" Paul informs us (1 Cor. 13:13). Jesus tells us that the commands of God basically boil down to two things: to love God and to love our neighbour. This command to love is also a communal command because we live out the command to love within the Church.

Perhaps these three virtues of faith, hope and love can also be the foundations of our diocesan Synod. As we walk together, we relearn how to hear, read, and apply God's Word communally, and we will become a community that is continually growing in faith, hope and love together. In doing so, the Church may walk by the seaside seeing the waves (and the up and downs in people's lives and faith struggles). At the same the Church can provide safe passage against the self-referential faith since the Church isn't an activity we do. It is who we are because of faith, hope and above all love.

Fr Joe

LAUDATO SI

A big thank you to all those who attended our Laudato Si week event last Tuesday night – a screening of 'The Letter' film in the parish hall. This is a well produced and powerful film about the massive challenge of climate change and the Pope's call to respond - not with indifference but by standing in solidarity with both the cry of the poor and the cry of the Earth. This 80 minute film deserves a broad viewing and can be accessed through YouTube at <https://youtu.be/Rps9bs85BIIor> or by searching on "The Letter film Laudato Si".

Work on our draft Laudato Si action plan has commenced but we need your input. What ways would you like to see our parish respond? The Laudato Si goals are: the Cry of the earth, the cry of the poor, ecological economics, adoption of simpler lifestyles, ecological education, ecological spirituality, community engagement and participatory action. You can send an email to Melissa McDonald at melissajmc@bigpond.com or complete the form (available from the Warden's table) and return to the parish office or to Melissa. Your thoughts are very much appreciated.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY. This Monday June 5th is World Environment Day. The 2023 Theme is

'Solutions to plastic pollution'. Plastic pollution is preventable. Taking action across all sectors of society can halt and reverse it. <https://www.worldenvironmentday.global>



Pope Francis encourages us to work for and love our world, and to recognise the interdependence and sacredness of all living creatures, including humans, with the physical world.

A change in lifestyle could bring healthy pressure to bear on those who wield political, economic and social power. This is what consumer movements accomplish by boycotting certain products. They prove successful in changing the way businesses operate, forcing them to consider their environmental footprint and their patterns of production... This shows us the great need for a sense of social responsibility on the part of consumers. "Purchasing is always a moral – and not simply economic – act." Today, in a word, "the issue of environmental degradation challenges us to examine our lifestyle". (Laudato Si' paragraph #206)

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Thelma Khnouf (Joseph Khnouf's Mother), David Williams (Jillian Williams' Son), Helen Hunt, Kerry Harriden (Michael Harriden's Brother), Mary O'Sullivan, Shirley Cameron, Joe Grange and Maria Cummins.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Gwen Cullinan, 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, 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:

Maria Dinale, Matilda Lutze, Susan Gibson, Maurice Whitford, May Brophy, Ian McNay, Gregory Macquarie, Ellen Durham, Sarah Kleinmeulman, Monica Palmer, Charles Mooney, Philomena Owens, William Robb, Keith Tydeman, Daphne Dowding, John Shanahan, Laila Spedding, Jan Ciosmak, John O'Shea, Michael Glover, Valerie Ridings and Father Maurice McNamara.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 10TH & 11TH JUNE 2023

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Anaru Veitch	Peter McMahon	Juliana Khnouf
Senior Server	Anaru Veitch	Peter McMahon	Juliana Khnouf
Junior Servers	Quentin Lynch & Matilda Howard		Emily Dowling & Leia Agahari
Warden	Allan Jones	Volunteer Please	Patricia Murnane
1 st Reading	Maureen Tulk	Carl Moll	Dan or Tim Kensey
2nd Reading	Eileen Jones	Elizabeth Konza	Kristina Rajnoch
Intercession	Dawn Willis	John Isaksen	Yvonne Scanlan
Music	Bernadette Phillips & Michael Taylor		Finnie's Group
IT Operators	Anne Hobbs	Kylie Mills	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Allan & Eileen Jones	Volunteers Please	Dorothea Walsh
Communion	Brian Robertson	Brian Grech	Annissa Nilsson
Cashiers	Robyn Flynn, Ann & Ray Keating		
Children's Liturgy	Carolyn		
Piety Stall	Beth Culliver		
Church Care	Volunteers Please		
Hospitality	Ann King, Lynne Atkinson, Daren & Liz Dukes		

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