



The Barra
Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
24th & 25th June 2023

Jeremiah 20:10-13; Ps 68; Romans 5:12-15; Matthew 10:26-33

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

PARISH INFORMATION

Matthew 10:26-33:

Fear Not

Introduction

All throughout the gospels, Jesus addressed the fear, worry, and anxiety that those around Him were experiencing. However, He didn't just do this to bring physical comfort to those experiencing ill effects or anxiety. He challenged those He encountered to understand the spiritual significance of their anxiety.

Commentary

This section recalls the words of encouragement given to Servant Israel in the "fear not" sayings in Isaiah (35:3-4; 41:9-10). Despite opposition, the disciples are to remember that God has called them to proclaim God's message and so will help them. They are to lift their voices with strength and fear not (Is 40:9). For those "new things, hidden things" (Is 48:6-8), the good news of the kingdom not previously known, are now to be revealed. "What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light" further alludes to the Isaianic motif of bringing the good news to Israel (42:16). What Jesus has taught his disciples privately they are now to proclaim with boldness, even upon the flat housetops that form an ideal platform for proclamation to a crowd.

For the faithful, physical death is limited, for they shall rise and shine like the stars forever (Dan 12:2; Mal 4:1f.) The disciples can be assured that their heavenly Father who watches over even the sparrow is watching over and taking care of them, for everything that happens in this world is under God's control. Surely God will especially value those whom He has called to be messengers. The cry of the faithful Israel has been: "You are our Father" (Is 63:16). With this in mind Jesus reminds his disciples of their solidarity with him and with God as their Father. Here, Jesus reveals more of his mission as the Son of Man, referring to his role in judgement before the Father, a role that accentuates the importance of Jesus as Lord. To acknowledge their unity with him is to be acknowledged before the Father, but to deny Him is ultimately to be denied before God.

In Palestine, it was not dangerous to speak of the coming of God's kingdom. This is spiritually acceptable because the coming of God's kingdom can be understood as the observance of his commandments.

It only would be politically dangerous if the coming of the kingdom was identified with the coming of the Son of Man. It is the connection with the person of Jesus that politically endangers Christians.

With the identification of God's kingdom with Jesus, the purely *spiritual* expectation of the future became a bodily reality that threatens political power. Therefore, the combination of the Eucharistic celebration (Body and Blood of Christ) and the universal care of God became suspicious for the rulers.

Please continue reading on page 3

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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'S BAPTISMS:

St Finbar's Parish joyfully announces the Baptisms of

Anahi Fox & Lewis Antonio Fox

who are going to be baptised after Mass this Sunday.

We warmly welcome them into our Faith Community.



WE 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 25th June 2023</p> <p><i>12th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass</p> <p>9.30am Mass</p> <p>10.45am Baptisms</p>
<p>Monday 26th June</p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed</p> <p>5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R</p>
<p>Tuesday 27th June</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p> <p>7.30pm Baptism Preparation Meeting M/R</p>
<p>Wednesday 28th June</p> <p><i>St Irenaeus</i></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 29th June</p> <p><i>Sts Peter & Paul</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>5.00pm 1st Holy Communion Rehearsal</p> <p>7.30pm Netball Club General Meeting P/C</p>
<p>Friday 30th June</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>1.00pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p>Saturday 1st July</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>11.30am Te Deum's Choir Practice</p> <p>4.30pm Confessions</p> <p>5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 2nd July 2023</p> <p><i>13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass</p> <p>9.30am 1st Holy Communion Mass</p> <p>6.00pm Youth Mass</p> <p>Live Streaming Link</p> <p>https://youtube.com/live/_GPGauJj5ZM?feature=share</p> <p>7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>

Refugee Week Diocesan Food Drive

Many vulnerable people in our community rely on the 'food banks' run by Jesuit Refugee Services and the House of Welcome, which operate thanks to donations from community food drives. This Refugee Week, the Diocese of Parramatta is encouraging parishes and schools to run a food drive for those seeking safety in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

Find out more information about how you can help at parracatholic.org/fooddrive or by emailing james.atanasious@parracatholic.org

Watch Bishop Vincent on ABC's Compass

Bishop Vincent features on ABC Compass on this Sunday 25 June. Accompanied by Geraldine Doogue, he will show you important places in his life, and you'll hear about his remarkable story and ministry. Watch it on ABC TV at 6.30pm or later on ABC iView.

Aboriginal Catholic Care NAIDOC Celebrations: 4 July

You are warmly invited to attend Aboriginal Catholic Care's NAIDOC Week celebrations on Tuesday 4 July at 252 Luxford Road, Emerton from 10am to 2pm.

The event will include Stalls, Entertainment, Rides, Jumping Castle, Creature Feature, Face Painting, Sausage Sizzles & much more.

Families called to share their stories with the first Diocesan Synod

Bishop Vincent wants to hear from families and households across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Your stories will inform the direction of our local Church into the future through what is known as a synod.

Our Diocesan Synod is both an event and a process where people gather to discuss important matters relating to the life and mission of the Church. Synods are transformative experiences that lead to renewal in the Church's life. The success of the Synod relies on your participation. Families and households are encouraged to participate in the Synod at home using the resources 'Synod at Home' found here:

https://parracatholic.org/synod2023_resources/

Fr Shinto is leaving

Fr Shinto, who resides in our parish presbytery and is currently the assistant priest at Springwood, will be leaving us soon.

Fr Shinto has been appointed as the Administrator of the Luddenham parish while their Parish Priest is on a four month period of sabbatical leave. We wish Fr Shinto well in his new posting, and may God bless his work in his new parish.

Fr Joe's Musings continued from page 1

Is it today still possible to profess the faith? Is it necessary to confess it? And do you want to confess it? Every Sunday, a confession of faith, spoken together in the worship community, is part of the Mass: I believe in God the Creator, in Jesus Christ, in the Spirit who gives life and in the Church.

In the Church, therefore, the courage of all to profess and to proclaim the faith is needed so that she remains on the right path. Theologically, this is referred to as the so-called sense of faith of all believers, i.e. the conviction that a kind of "spiritual and *real* instinct" is manifested in all who believe, whether a particular doctrine or practice is in harmony with the Gospel and the apostolic faith.

The profession of faith has public consequences. Through words and deeds, it becomes clear what shapes the confessors in their hearts and minds, from what strength and attitude they live.

Fr Joe

What is happening at St Finbar's

As always, there is lots happening at St Finbar's, and these are a few highlights:

First Holy Communion will be celebrated by about 30 young people at the 9:30am Mass on Sunday 2nd July. Please pray for them that they will receive all the graces of this Sacrament and continue to lead good Christian lives. The parish sincerely thanks Annemare Baird for formally preparing the children, and their parents for encouraging them and leading by example.

The Outdoor Altar is nearing completion, thanks largely to the huge input from Kieran and Trish Murnane and Frank Zammit. You can see it outside the church across from the door to the meeting room. We need to purchase about 10 or 12 umbrellas to shade parishioners during Mass in the warmer weather, These cost about \$100 each, and we are seeking donations from parishioners to help cover this cost. You can put your donation on either of the collection plates or you can pay using the parish website or the QR code on the front page of this Barra. Thank you in advance.

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) met recently to continue their work of looking after the welfare of our parish. Topics discussed included the good progress being made in upgrading the parish kitchen, the great success of the youth retreat held in Jamberoo Valley, what is happening with the Men's Whiskey and Good News nights (the next one is on 20th July) and the Ladies Gin & Tonic & Treasures evenings (next on 27th July). The PPC also discussed a proposal to possibly trial a catechetical class for playgroup and other pre-schooler children, and they received reports from the School Principal and the Deanery representative. They will meet again in early August.

Commissioning New PPC Members

Fr Joe will be commissioning our two new PPC members, Cecelia Zammit and Tim O'Donnell, as well as Kylie Mills our new Deanery representative, at the 9:30am Mass on Sunday. You are invited to be present at Mass and to pray that the Holy Spirit guide them all in these important tasks they have undertaken.

COVID on the Rise

It seems that COVID is on the rise as quite a few local people are known to have tested positive to it, including some of our parishioners. If you have any symptoms that might be COVID related, please consider staying at home rather than coming to the parish. By doing this you will be contributing positively to the welfare of your fellow parishioners. Mass will be live streamed from St. Finbars this Saturday evening at

<https://youtube.com/live/dHKGL-tFGmw?feature=share>

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Colin Haywood, Paul Wesley (Mike, Laurie and Margaret 's cousin), 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, Jacqui Visser, Margaret Christensen, Mark Bates, Colleen & Michael Nolan, Terry Stevens, 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:

Mario Carboni, Edward Cornish, Therese Dupressoir, Roger Chambers, Patricia Goldhawk, Arthur Plevy, Mazelle Montgomery, Mary Robb, Valma Davenport, Christopher Robinson, John Dent, Grace Farrell, Bernard Wilson, Michael Kelly, Dr Charles Kerry, Joyce Adamson, Jessie Clayton and Helen Sheehan.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 1ST & 2ND JULY 2023

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Peter McMahon	Carl Moll	Gerard Egan
Senior Server	Peter McMahon	Carl Moll	Joseph Sukkar
Junior Servers	Alex & Luc Nilsson		Xavier Rajnoch & Patrick Sukkar
Warden	Vince Dobson	Volunteer Please	Justin Dowling
1 st Reading	Beth Culliver	John De Mattia	Pearse Cremin
2nd Reading	Eileen Jones	John Killeen	Amanda Moore
Intercession	Greg Rowe	Kevin Flynn	Justin Dowling
Music	Naomi's Group		Jenny Long & Anne Hobbs
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Joseph Wilson	Pat Watson
Gifts	Noreen Taylor & Janice Smith	Maria Heinzl & Stanis Drobiszewski	Volunteers Please
Communion	Vince Dobson	John Killeen	Garry Pursehouse
Children's Liturgy	School Holiday		
Piety Stall	Carmel Higgins		
Church Care	Catherine Marceau, Jane Lennon, Christyna Lloyd, Beth Killeen & Camilla Lobo		
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek, Vicky Ang, Tamar Apkarian and Karen Sukkar		

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