



The Barra
Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
1st & 2nd July 2023

2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16; Ps 88; Romans 6:3-4, 8-11; Matthew 10:37-42

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

I am the Bread of Life

This Sunday we welcome and celebrate together with 30 children and their families their first Holy Communion. We give thanks to God for inviting our children to the heavenly banquet at which they will be nourished with the saving Body and Blood of Christ. For Catholics, the Eucharist is the “source and summit of our Christian life.” (Catechism of the Catholic Church nos. 1324-1327)

A recent Pew Research Centre survey in America, however, suggests that only 30% of Catholics believe in the REAL PRESENCE of God in the Eucharistic species. In fact, nearly seven-in-ten Catholics (69%) say they personally believe that during Catholic Mass, the bread and wine used in Communion “are symbols of the body and blood of Jesus Christ.” The statistic is at odds with the ancient tradition of our Catholic faith. The great St. Augustine says that the visible bread and wine on the altar, “sanctified by the word of God,” are His Body and Blood. Through devoutly receiving that Body and Blood that was shed for us, we become that Body, which means that we are joined in the close union of the Mystical Body. St. Augustine’s Eucharistic realism can be seen in his affirmation that what we receive in Communion is the same Body of Christ that hung on the Cross, and from which we are fed. In a sermon to the newly baptized, he says: “Recognize in the bread what hung on the cross, and in the cup, what flowed from his side.” St. Augustine also stresses that the sacrifice of the Mass involves, together with the sacrifice of Christ, the sacrifice of the faithful of themselves: “Then, after the consecration of the Holy Sacrifice of God, because he wished us also to be his sacrifice, a fact which was made clear when the Holy Sacrifice was first instituted, and because that Sacrifice is a sign of what we are, behold, when the Sacrifice is finished, we say the Lord’s Prayer.” (Augustine, Sermon 272)

Symbols do not save. Only the Real Presence of God does! So, let us pray for our children and their families that through the receiving of the Eucharist they are encouraged to live by what they received.

I would like to express my deepest and sincere gratitude to Annemaree Baird who has taught, guided, and accompanied our children toward this Sunday’s celebration.

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PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam
 E-mail: joseph.lam@parracatholic.org

Secretary: Juliana Khnouf
 E-mail: secretary@stfinbars.org.au
 (ON LEAVE)

Admin: Peter McMahon
 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

CONGRATULATIONS

to all the children who are receiving their First Holy Communion this Sunday. May the good Lord bless you with everlasting peace, faith, and joy.



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 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 https://youtube.com/live/_GPGauJj5ZM?feature=share</p> <p>7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>
<p>Monday 3rd July</p> <p><i>St Thomas</i></p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed</p> <p>6.30pm Finnie's Choir Practice</p>
<p>Tuesday 4th July</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C</p> <p>6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p>
<p>Wednesday 5th July</p>	<p>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</p> <p>7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Thursday 6th July</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Friday 7th July</p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>1.00pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p>Saturday 8th July</p>	<p>** No Mass this morning</p> <p>11.30am Te Deum's Choir Practice</p> <p>4.30pm Confessions</p> <p>5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 9th July 2023</p> <p><i>14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass</p> <p>9.30am Mass</p> <p>10.45am Baptisms</p>



Refugee Week Diocesan Food Drive

Many vulnerable people in our community rely on the 'food banks' run by the 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 schools and parishes 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

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/

Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. The next Engaged Encounter Weekend will be held on 5 – 6 August. For further information and to register, visit www.engagedencounter.org.au/

Penrith Parish Room for Rent

St Nicholas of Myra Parish in Penrith is renting out an upstairs space . Contact Rodney (Office Manager) on 4721 2509 or enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday and NAIDOC

This week is Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, followed by NAIDOC week from 2-9 July. It is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and participate in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference endorsed the **Uluru Statement from the Heart** in 2021, with the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia taking the same step last year. Perhaps, you may be interested to read this Statement again (it is posted in the **Narthex**).

Since the Bill relating to the VOICE referendum has passed both chambers, the Senate and the House of Representatives, the referendum must be conducted within the next six months. The Australian bishops call for a meaningful engagement with the VOICE, acknowledging that “people may, in good faith, have differing concerns and perspectives”. We want to encourage all Australians to educate themselves as well as possible concerning the proposal to establish the Voice. Fr Frank Brennan’s latest book “An Indigenous Voice to Parliament: Considering a Constitutional Bridge” (2023) may serve here as a resource. Also the Netflix documentary “The Final Quarter” about the final playing years of Adam Goodes, retired AFL player and Australian of the Year, is highly recommended.

This is an important moment in the history of the nation, and it can help us to move towards a deep and just reconciliation. It also offers a mechanism to improve the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. We are an open democracy, and this is a moment to use our democratic institutions to produce a high-quality debate, shaped by a genuine concern to do justice and bring healing to First Nations Peoples.

Fr Joe

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Our parish is a very active Christian community, and here are a couple of upcoming events for after the school holiday period - save these dates in your diaries.

- ✿ Tuesday 15th August at 7:30pm: Talk by Mike Baird “Ageing is just another word for living”.
- ✿ Saturday 19th August at 7:00pm: St Finbar’s Trivia Night
- ✿ Saturday 26th August at 7:30am: Men’s Breakfast

CYP LIFTED RETREAT ‘Behold’: 7 – 9 July

Young people aged 18 to 25 are invited to Catholic Youth Parramatta’s LIFTED Retreat. Get away from the busyness of life for a weekend of prayer, sacraments, and community. The retreat will be held from Friday 7 to Sunday 9 July at the Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville. Cost: \$125 per person including accommodation for two nights and all meals. Register at: <https://parracatholic.org/cyp-lifted-retreat/>

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

All parishioners are encouraged to undertake the safeguarding training being offered free by the Diocese. This training is designed to teach us how to ensure the safety of any vulnerable person in our parish, whether it be an elderly person, a disabled person, a child, a person being persecuted etc. Building awareness and knowledge of how to prevent potentially abusive situations is a key part of how we are responding to Bishop Vincent’s commitment to Safeguarding, and his zero tolerance of abuse of any kind. The training is being offered in person at Winston Hills parish in July. The training will also be offered elsewhere and you can email safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org for information about other places they will be offered or for on-line options.

Bateman Battersby

L A W Y E R S

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

- | | |
|---|---|
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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:

Mark Cheeseman, 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:

Michael Wilburg, Rita O’Malley, Charley Allan, Dr. Christopher Kohlenberg, John Bowden, Eliza Nolan, Helen Lum, Kathleen Higgins, John Coyle, Pining Brown, Raymond Heaver and Joan Sisson.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 8TH & 9TH JULY 2023

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Anaru Veitch	Peter McMahon	Garry Pursehouse
Senior Server	Anaru Veitch	Peter McMahon	Garry Pursehouse
Junior Servers	Quentin Lynch & Matilda Howard		Emily Dowling & Leia Agahari
Warden	Allan Jones	Volunteer Please	Patricia Murnane
1 st Reading	Maureen Tulk	Carl Moll	Richard Cutler
2nd Reading	Dawn Willis	Geraldine Agahari	Carmel Higgins
Intercession	Felicity Lindfield	Elizabeth Konza	Joanne Stubbs
Music	Cormac’ Group		Finnie’s Group
IT Operators	Anne Hobbs	Kylie Mills	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Allan & Eileen Jones	Volunteers Please	Dorothea Walsh
Communion	Margaret Richards	Kath Tierney	Yvonne Scanlan
Children’s Liturgy	School Holidays		
Piety Stall	Beth Culliver		
Church Care	Volunteers Please		
Hospitality	Anne King, Lynne Atkinson, Daren & Liz Dukes		
Lawn Mowing	Volunteer Please		

Ballimino's
CAFE & PIZZERIA
EST. 2019

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

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