



The Barra
Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
8th & 9th July 2023

Zechariah 9:9-10; Ps 144; Romans 8:9, 11-13; Matthew 11:25-30

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

The Simplicity of Christian Faith
Introduction

The message of Jesus is not addressed to the clever and educated, but to the simple. Jesus' words in Mt 11 mean therefore: The so-called simple ones are his addressees; they are curious and inquisitive. They are not satisfied, full of apparent certainty about their seeming knowledge. They did not think they could see like the blind Pharisees in John 9. According to Mt 11, Christianity means something very simple: the Father is accessible only through the Son, and through him as a person. The whole of Matthew's Gospel reports from the way of Jesus, who renounces violence and has a humble heart, and from the way to the cross. Jesus' teaching is his life.

Of course, the text in Matthew 11 says that this simplicity cannot consist in believing Jesus to be a "mere" man. Christianity is not made easier by belittling Jesus' exclusive dignity. Rather, one should recognize it, and then imitate the path of renunciation of violence and that of humility. In this respect, our text contains what is special about Jesus and at the same time what can be imitated by all.

Wisdom of God: Relationship

Mt 11:25 "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones" appears to reflect Dan 2:20f and 1 Cor 1: The wisdom of the world according to Paul corresponds here to the wisdom of the wise. But the wisdom of God is the wisdom of fools. It is brand new and is therefore hidden from the wise of the world. In Matthew 11:29f, Jesus will say that the content of this wisdom is neither knowledge nor rules of wisdom, but Jesus himself as a person. So, it's not about a human knowledge that dominates, because possession of information means power. The insight through the Son means rather an entry into the exclusive relationship that is previously only given between the father and the Son. This reflects the OT understanding of the verb "to know" because in its Semitic sense it means just "to be in relationship with" (Hos 2:20; 6:1). Furthermore, when God calls someone to knowledge, God also knows beforehand about the fidelity of a servant (Isa 42:9). In this context, Mt 11:27: "No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him", the term "Son" refers to Jesus' fulfilling the role of the Servant (see also Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane to the Father).

PARISH INFORMATION

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

Secretary: Juliana Khnouf
 E-mail: secretary@stfinbars.org.au

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

SUNDAY'S BAPTISMS:

The Parish joyfully announces the Baptism of two new young parishioners this Sunday, and warmly welcomes them into our Faith Community here at St Finbar's.



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 9th July 2023</p> <p><i>14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Baptisms</p>
<p>Monday 10th July</p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed 5.00pm SVP Meeting M/R</p>
<p>Tuesday 11th July <i>St Benedict</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass 6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p>
<p>Wednesday 12th July</p>	<p>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 10.30am Pastoral Care meeting M/R 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Thursday 13th July</p>	<p>9.15am Mass 1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Friday 14th July</p>	<p>9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bowlers</p>
<p>Saturday 15th July <i>St Bonaventure</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass 11.30am Te Deum's Choir Practice 4.30pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 16th July 2023</p> <p><i>15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 1.15pm Bridge Club P/C 6.00pm Youth Mass Live Streaming Link https://youtube.com/live/xAt86UIDKng?feature=share 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>

Diocesan Food Drives

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. All parishes and schools are encouraged 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 emailing james.atanasious@parracatholic.org

Get #Active4Vocations in the City2Surf: 13 August

Join the Parramatta Catholic Foundation #Active4Vocations team. Walk, stroll, jog, or run with our Holy Spirit seminarians, deacons, priests, and community. Visit us at tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations to register or donate. Funds raised support our Diocese's seminarians to become priests. Thank you for getting #Active4Vocations.

Diocesan Synod Interfaith Consultations: 12 July

In response to Bishop Vincent's invitation that all in the diocese engage with the upcoming Diocesan Synod, the Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations and the Diocesan Interfaith Commission will be co-hosting a series of consultations on how we are called to walk together with believers from other religions. All are welcome to join in the consultations session on Wednesday 12 July from 6.30pm to 9pm at St Patrick's Parish, Guildford – tickets at https://events.humanitix.com/synod_interfaith_consultation_guildford

FaithLIFE – 3 Night Short Course on Synodal Spirituality: Beginning 22 August

Pope Francis has invited the Church to be more 'synodal'. But what does that mean as an expression of Christian spirituality? Sign up for the FaithLIFE 3-night short course on synodal spirituality with Sr Patty Andrew, brought to you by the Mission Enhancement Team (MET). 6:30PM to 8:30PM on three Tuesdays: 22 Aug + 29 Aug + 5 Sep. Downstairs @ Bishop Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown NSW 2148. RSVP via <https://pfparra.org.au/faithlife/>



Cont. from p1

Divine Burden and Its Rewards

In previous chapters, Matthew tells of the burden, sufferings, and risks that the disciples will experience in their fidelity to Jesus' mission.

The invitation now offered (v. 28) is thus the call of Jesus as Servant Israel, the herald of good news, to the faint and weary. Unlike the false leaders who do not heed the call to "give rest to the weary" (Isa 28:12), Jesus reveals himself as the humble and gentle one; and he can promise rest, peace and security that come through a right relationship with God.

Jesus' yoke does not disregard the disciples' needs. More, his burden is suited to their needs for he himself is afflicted and lowly in heart, a phrase that summarizes the description of a Servant. Jesus thus expresses his solidarity with the faithful: "You will find rest for your soul" (Mt 5:3.5), a quote from Jer 6:6.

The invitation given here seems to echo the invitation of wisdom in Sir 51:23-30 and is deliberately done to show that words are not enough: true wisdom is vindicated by her deeds. Jesus here offers his rendition of the invitation in Isa 55:3 to enter into that faithful relationship with God in the kingdom.

Fr Joe

Become a Catechist! - Catechist training commencing in August at St Finbars, Glenbrook. Sharing the gospel with students in our public schools is an important ministry in our parish. It may sound daunting, but it is very rewarding spending time with young people sharing our faith. You'll be joining a supportive team, and curriculum materials and ongoing training are provided. We'd love to see you there. To enquire/enrol speak to Beth Culliver, our Parish Catechist Coordinator, or email Maree at ccd.training@parracatholic.org with your details.

Organist Taking a Break

Jenny Long, our organist at the 9:30am Mass on the first Sunday of each month, is taking a well earned break for four months. She travels down from Katoomba to be with us and this is quite a commitment on her part. I know that the choir she plays for are sad to see her take a break, and thank her for her willingness to play at Mass.

This is an opportunity for any other musician in our parish to step up and offer to play at this one Mass each month for the next four months. If you are possibly interested, please talk to Fr Joe or visit the parish office and let us know of your interest.

COVID Reminder

All the indications are that COVID is still around in various guises. It is important to protect your fellow-parishioners who gather together at Mass, so please remember to practise good hygiene, use the disinfectant supplied and practise social distancing.

Coming Events

- ✦ Playgroup resumes on 19th July at 9:30am. All welcome
- ✦ Healing Mass is on Thursday 20th July at 9:15am
- ✦ The Youth sponsored movie night will be on Saturday 22nd July from 6:30pm
- ✦ The Vinnies Winter Appeal will be a leaving collection at all Masses on the weekend of 29th & 30th July.

Bateman Battersby

L A W Y E R S

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

Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au

BEAUTIFUL
SIMPLE
FAREWELLS

4735 6900 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

Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au

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:

Jean McMillan, Kathryn Hazell, Harry Taylor, Aloysius McGlynn, Mildred Jordan, David Aitken, Ric Baradinsky, Kathleen O’Connor, Danielle Archer, Victor Baker, Leon Smith, Lorraine Grant, Jack Roles, Garry Thew, Thomas Boyle, Scott Grzonkowski, Geraldine James, John Kelly, Margaret Frost & Kim Nolan.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 15TH & 16TH JULY 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	Volunteers Please		Zoe Wilson Dominic Sheary & Tim Kensey
Warden	Lorraine Brown	Volunteer Please	Frank Fitzpatrick
1 st Reading	Maire Griffin	Kevin Lloyd	Volunteer please
2nd Reading	Gideon Goosen	Margaret Dickson	Annissa Nilsson
Intercession	Margaret Moore	John Isaksen	Frank Fitzpatrick
Music	Cantabile		Naomi’s Group
IT Operators	Pat Watson	Elizabeth Konza	Susan Dowling
Gifts	Thea & Brian Robertson	Kay Whitty	Volunteers Please
Communion	Bernie Fisher	Jean Di Nucci	Annissa Nilsson
Children’s Liturgy	School Holidays		
Piety Stall	Lee Jackson		
Church Care	Robyn Flynn, Jan De Bie, Jessica Doherty, Dawn Willis & Wendy Bohan		
Hospitality	Trish & Peter Hurley, Irene and Bert Aligno		

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