



The Barra

Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD - Year A
5th & 6th August 2023

Daniel 7:9-10; Ps 96; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Matthew 17:1-9

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Sunday of Transfiguration

The transfiguration appears in each of the Gospel books as an important moment in the life of Jesus and evidence of His divinity. After Jesus performs a series of miracles and foretells His own death, Jesus leads just three of His disciples, Peter, James, and John, to a "high mountain", a place of divine revelation in Scripture (Matthew 5:1, Genesis 22:2, Exodus 19:3, Isaiah 2:3). The point of the Transfiguration was to reinforce the staggering faith of the apostles. As Jesus, Peter, James, and John return from the mountain, they find the other apostles trying to drive a demon out of a man and unable to do so. When they ask why the exorcism won't work, Jesus says it is because of their staggering faith. In the context, what is it that has *staggered* their faith? It was Jesus' message that He is going to die and that is exactly what the Transfiguration is all about. In such an interesting and compelling way, the Transfiguration illustrates what a careful, sensitive, creative, and resourceful divine teacher Jesus was.

To stagger means to walk or move unsteadily, as if about to fall. There are doubts that make us stagger. However, the Transfiguration tells us this: Coming face to face with doubts always results in deeper faith. God shows up in questions even if we never get answers. Faith and doubt work in opposite directions helping us to persuade ourselves that God is bigger than the circumstances.

When we have a vision of what might be possible, we often respond in fear: We see our deficiencies, what we do not have, instead of what gifts we have all around us to make something happen. With the Transfiguration, let us be empowered and start changing our questions. Let us begin by asking ourselves about the gifts, the things we can offer to our local community, country, and Church. In this way, we have a new path of life: Transfiguration – transformation - social transformation. Living into possibility.

Since my arrival in November 2020, we had the Parish Plenary consultation focusing on the strengthening of our parish Catholic identity and belonging. I believe that now we have achieved a good sense of our Catholic identity and faith. In the next three years up to 2026 (when my appointment will end), let us concentrate also on the aspect of belonging to our local community as well. I mean that as a Catholic parish we are also people of our local community. Hence, we also share the joys and griefs of people in our community. Our mission is also to care for the wider needs of our community.

Having listened to and consulted with the PPC and PFC, I have decided to offer the small studio attached to the presbytery to vulnerable people in our community as emergency temporary accommodation. We will work through various local and diocesan agencies to make sure that we offer the best assistance to people in need.

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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

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:

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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:

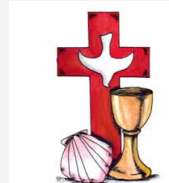
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SUNDAY RITE OF WELCOME

The Parish joyfully welcomes Jude Lennon Kennedy Mantle and Olive Coco Pirozzi into our Faith Community.

They are going to be Baptised at our Parish next weekend.

May God bless them both.



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

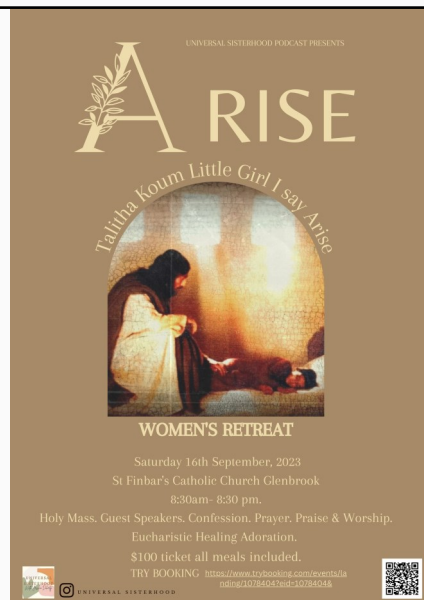
the Traditional custodians of this land on which we worship at St Finbar's - The Darug and Gundungurra People. We pay respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

PARISH CALENDAR

<p>Sunday 6th August <i>THE</i> <i>TRANSFIGURATION OF</i> <i>THE LORD Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 6.00pm Youth Mass</p> <p>Live Streaming Link https://youtube.com/live/emry3IKkLtE?feature=share</p> <p>7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>
<p>Monday 7th August</p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed</p> <p>8.30am CCD Training Course P/C</p> <p>5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R</p> <p>6.30pm Finnie's Choir Practice</p>
<p>Tuesday 8th August <i>St Mary of the Cross</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>6.00pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p> <p>7.00pm Parish Council Meeting M/R</p>
<p>Wednesday 9th August</p>	<p>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</p> <p>9.30am Playgroup P/C</p> <p>10.30am Pastoral Care Meeting M/R</p> <p>7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>7.00pm Parish Movie Night—Glenbrook Cinema</p>
<p>Thursday 10th August <i>St Lawrence</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Friday 11th August <i>St Clare</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass</p> <p>1.00pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p>Saturday 12th August</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 13th August <i>19th Sunday in</i> <i>Ordinary Time Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass –Family Mass 10.45am Baptisms</p>

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES WHEN FATHER JOE IS AWAY ON HIS ANNUAL LEAVE

Please note that Father Joe will be away on his annual leave from Wednesday the 16th of August to Saturday the 16th of September. During his absence the parish will have weekday Masses only on Wednesdays and Fridays and The Liturgy of the Word with Communion on Thursdays. There won't be Mass on Tuesdays and Saturday mornings. Weekend Masses will be at the usual time.



BRIEF WORKING BEE SATURDAY 12TH AUGUST

TIME: 9am – 10am

We need 6 - 8 people

SMALL TRUCK TO BE FILLED WITH GARDEN CUTTINGS!

The gardeners have had a merry time pruning and tidying BUT NOW we need the large pile of cuttings and weeds to be placed on a truck so it can be taken as green waste to the tip. It is not heavy work but it needs a few people to get it done. Please let the Parish Office know or just turn up on the day! We will have a tea/coffee/snack available.



SAFEGUARDING MODULE 2& 3

For *all Parish Volunteers* who need to complete their Safeguarding Module 2 for the 1st time and/or for all who had completed it two years ago, they will need to refresh it. The parish is having a face to face Safeguarding Module 2 session in the parish hall on Tuesday the 22nd of August at 7.30pm and a Module 3 session on Tuesday the 29th of August at 7.30pm. Each volunteer needs to complete 3 Modules. Sacristans, Senior Servers, Acolytes and Parish Staff need to complete 5 Modules.

Please ring or email the parish office to register your name to attend.

Fr Joe's Musings—Continued from page 1

Depending on our financial resource, the PFC and I have determined to use up 10% of our annual income surplus to assist people in need financially. All parishioners are invited to submit proposals of aid for the PFC to consider. Carl Moll, PFC chair, has already drafted conditions of eligibility for this fund.

As usual, I will take my annual leave from 16th August to 15th September to visit the grave of my mum, my elderly father, and my siblings in Germany. There, I will also fulfil my lecturing duties to preserve and renew my university position of honorary professor. I also will visit the lepers living in very remote parts of Vietnam and provide material and spiritual assistance.

During my annual leave, various priests will assist with the Masses. Because of their limited availability, we will have weekday Masses on Wednesday and Friday only. Weekend Masses are as usual. There may be only limited occasions for the sacrament of confessions during my annual leave.

Fr Joe

CLARIFICATION RE COLLECTION AT MASS

You are aware that there are two collections at our weekend Masses. *The income from the first collection does not go to the bishop as many may have thought. Rather, it is administered by a so-called **Board of Renumeration** consisting of elected priests and deacons for a term of three years.*

The **first collection** supports priests (retired and active) and deacons in our diocese. It includes the coverage of monthly stipend (400 AUD weekly), electricity bills, housekeeping and health insurances. Priests do not receive holidays loading. 10 % of the first collection supports the bishop. As a priest Fr Joe is a beneficiary of the first collection. The weekly expenses for a priest and deacon are currently at 900 AUD. At St Finbar's, the weekly first collection only about 600 AUD, and so does not cover our needs.

The **second collection** remains entirely in the parish and is used to pay for all parish expenses including insurance, utilities, staff wages, hospitality, pastoral and liturgical expenses, repairs and maintenance.

A Glimpse of the Sublime

A Concert of delightful music featuring –
Stephanie Zammit (Soprano) And Michael Taylor (Organ)

And the heritage-listed Hele organ at

St. Finbar's Catholic Church

Sunday 27th August 2023 at 2pm, Donation \$15 and \$10 concession



Save the date—Sunday the 24th of September at 9.30am Mass- St Finbar's Feast Day Mass and Celebration afterwards.

We are moving forward and trying being environmentally conscious. We ask that each family brings their own supply of plates, cups cutlery, wine, chairs or picnic rug on the day. We will be serving spit lamb, baked potatoes, salad and bread rolls. Hope you will be able to attend.

'Former esteemed parishioner Rodney Moffit sends his fond regards to St Finbar's parishioners. Rodney now lives in Inverell and, quite predictably, is quite busy. He assists his sister who is unwell, and also works with his niece and husband on their cattle farm and property. The fair work is a lot of fun. Rodney is still a very generous person with regard to the Sacred Heart Parish at Inverell. He is treasurer of the Finance Committee, does general repairs around the church as he did here, and is on the pastoral team with the SVDP. The team has quite a large list of people whom they assist in practical ways. This also includes administration of some retirement units that belong to the parish. These provide some accommodation for people of modest means. Rodney looks well and has settled back into his childhood location. Inverell is a very pleasant looking town. Of course, he still has close contact with, and support of his cousin Ruth Gott and her family, our other esteemed parishioners who moved to the Orange area.'

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Fr Carl Aston, 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:

David Haynes (Yvonne Scanlan's Dad), 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:

Ute Moll (Carl Moll's Mother), Thelma Roach, John Costello, Robert Murphy, Freda Weston, Robyn Connors, Eric Jeckeln, Reginald Hambilton, Michael Cahill, William Mathew, Mark Roebuck, Maree Whitton, Anne Griffin, Marion Nardi and Norma Bardwell-Cook.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 12TH & 13TH AUGUST 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		Leia Agahari & Volunteer Please
Warden	Allan Jones	Volunteer Please	Patricia Murnane
1 st Reading	Maureen Tulk	Carl Moll	School Family
2nd Reading	Eileen Jones	Elizabeth Konza	School Family
Intercession	Dawn Willis	John Isaksen	School Family
Music	Cormac's Group		Finnie's Choir
IT Operators	Anne Hobbs	Volunteer Please	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Thea & Brian Robertson	Volunteers Please	School Family
Communion	Thea Robertson	Jim Tierney	Gerard Egan
Children's Liturgy	Pia		
Piety Stall	Beth Culliver		
Church Care	Veronica Clune, Fran Isaksen, Lynne Atkinson & Gabrielle Lynch. Saturday: Andrew Flaherty, Carl Moll, Steve Lee & Bryan Egan		
Hospitality	Anne King, Lynne Atkinson, Daren & Liz Dukes		

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