



The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
14th & 15th October 2023

Isaiah 25:6-10; Ps 22; Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20; Matthew 22:1-14

FR JOE'S MUSINGS

Salvation through the Cross, Not through War

The first reading of this Sunday is taken from the book of Isaiah. Therein, the author exults in the salvation that the Lord will grace his people with. The chains of disgrace will be loosened, tears will be wiped away, and the people will rejoice in the salvation of God: "He will violently cast down death forever. And the Lord God will take away the tears from every face, and he will take away the disgrace of his people from the entire earth. For the Lord has spoken it." (Isaiah 25:8)

In the Gospel of Matthew, the King invites all people to join the wedding feast, but the invited refused because they were concerned more about their *businesses* rather than being part of the celebration of peace. Their interests were focused on exploitation and killing: "The rest laid hold of his servants, mistreated them, and killed them." They didn't heed the warning uttered by Jesus to his disciples. "Live by the sword, die by the sword" is a proverb in the form of a parallel phrase, derived from the Gospel of Matthew (Matthew 26, 26:52): "Then said Jesus unto him, put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword."

Salvation derived from the Latin word: *salus*, and means well-being and peace, the deliverance of humankind from such fundamentally negative or disabling conditions as suffering, evil, finitude, and death. Salvation is the result of God's love. John 10:10 says, "I have come that they may have life and have it in abundance." To give you this gift of salvation, God made a way through His Son, Jesus Christ.

The world is currently in turmoil. The Middle East is in turmoil, the environment is in turmoil, the economy is in turmoil. Our human morality is at the lowest point. The global outlook is dim or perhaps even "dire". Can we save ourselves?

Our faith, however, also says that the Lord will not accept human cruelty and violence. In His love, He will reign in: "Then the king said to his attendants, 'Bind his hands and feet, and cast him into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.'" Perhaps, we are horrified when we hear this determination from God who ought to be tender and gentle and peaceful and loving. When we hear about God's retribution, it strikes our ears intuitively. Many would like to cancel out this *unpleasant* part of God: God can't be angry with us! We can't imagine that! *Yet, God's anger is his love in action against sin.* God's anger also makes us realize the *gravity of sins*. Just as we tend to get the most frustrated with the people, we are most invested in, God's anger occurs most often with those He's calling to represent Him, including Moses, kings, prophets, and above all His dear people.

Please continue reading on page 3

The Parish would like to welcome Father Mike Belonio to our parish community. He is going to celebrate this weekend's Saturday Vigil and Sunday morning Masses while Father Joe is at the Synod Meetings at the Diocese.

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

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: Saturdays 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

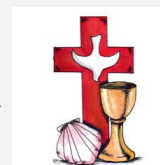
The Parish joyfully welcomes

Sienna Mila Morris

into our Faith Community.

She is going to be Baptised at our Parish next weekend.

May God bless her.



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

ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

<p>Sunday 15th October</p> <p><i>28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 6.00pm Youth Mass 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>
<p>Monday 16th October</p>	<p>No Mass. Office is closed 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R</p>
<p>Tuesday 17th October</p> <p><i>St Ignatius of Antioch</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass 10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p>
<p>Wednesday 18th October</p> <p><i>St Luke</i></p>	<p>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Thursday 19th October</p>	<p>9.15am Healing Mass followed by morning tea 1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p>Friday 20th October</p>	<p>9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bowlers P/C 6.30pm Concert Rehearsal</p>
<p>Saturday 21st October</p>	<p>9.15am Mass 10.00am Rite of Communion of the Sick information morning M/R 4.30pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 22nd October</p> <p><i>29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</i></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass followed by St Vincent's De Paul Parish BBQ 10.45am Baptisms 3.00pm Penrith City Choir Concert</p>

Voice to Parliament Kitchen table conversation

A group of around 15 parishioners met recently for a Voice to parliament Kitchen Table conversation reflecting on the need for progress and reconciliation in relations with First Nations people of this country.



We considered the issues from a Catholic perspective considering Catholic Social teaching principles, Decree 1 of the Plenary Council 2022 titled 'Reconciliation: Healing Wounds, receiving gifts', the United Nations Declaration on the rights of indigenous people, as well as recent statements of bishops and other Catholic leaders. Participants were asked to imagine a time in their lives they were without agency or control over what was happening to them. We discussed how this felt and what might have assisted us. We related this to a discussion on the history of exclusion and violence towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We reflected on the diversity of views on the Voice to Parliament and the opportunity this presents to walk together with a synodal spirit, respecting each others points of view. The strong needs for continued conversations and much prayer were key takeaways to ensure the journey of reconciliation, listening and love continues under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.



Melissa McDonald

ALL SOULS MASS

Mass this year will be celebrated on Thursday the 2nd of November at 7pm. The celebration of the Eucharist will be offered for only the faithful who departed during this past year. Also invited to participate in the liturgy are parishioners who have lost a close relative during the past year and whose funeral was conducted outside the Parish. A candle ceremony will be part of the celebration so if you would like your loved one remembered by lighting a candle (which your family member will place on the sanctuary during the Mass), please email the parish office on: secretary@stfinbars.org.au. A small photo of your loved one could also be placed on the sanctuary before the commencement of Mass. **Please note that the parish is not taking any names after the 28th of October.**

CABARET DINNER & DANCE FOR BUSH SCHOOL CAMBODIA

Saturday 4th November 6.45 for 7.00 pm At St. Finbar's Hall

Cost: \$50 per person, \$90 per couple

An evening of music, song and entertainment featuring some very talented local artists, together with a choice of gourmet dishes for mains and dessert. The option to dance, or just watch and enjoy. The dinner is to provide essential funds for the Bush School in the coming year. Please book early to secure a seat

Phone: Doug on 0403 303 943 or Email: bushschoolcambodia@gmail.com

See also: flyer in Narthex



Penrith City Choir

Fauré 'Requiem'

3 pm Sunday, 22 October 2023
St Finbar's Church
Levy Street, Glenbrook

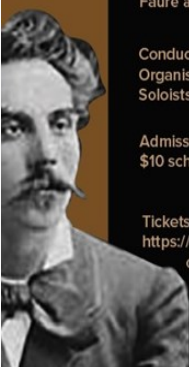
An afternoon of French sacred music featuring works by Fauré and Saint-Saëns.

Conductor: Rowen Fox
Organist: Titus Grenyer
Soloists: Belinda Montgomery, David Cervi

Admission \$28 adult; \$22 concession; \$10 school aged children.

Tickets available from Trybooking
<https://www.trybooking.com/CKXIH>
or at the door.
(Eftpos is available).

Enquires:
0400 516 630



FR JOE'S MUSINGS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

If God's anger occurs when humanity gives their hearts and minds over to self-destruction and corruption, then to be saved from God's anger is to get on a whole new set of train tracks. Through the life and death of Jesus, we are invited into the new humanity, one that participates in the very love and life of God. Our life trajectory now leads not to death but to everlasting life.

At Jesus' Cross, God's anger and God's love meet together to rescue humans and provide them life on the other side of death.

The renowned biblical scholar, N. T. Wright reflects on God's anger and love: "The great evils of the twentieth century have reminded us that unless God remains implacably opposed to the evil that distorts and defaces creation, not least humanity, God is not good. Paul's whole theology is grounded in the robust, scripturally rooted view that the Creator is neither a tyrant nor an absentee landlord, but rather the Creator and Lover of the world... The result is God's 'wrath' — not just an attitude of hostility toward idolatry and immorality, but also actions that follow from that attitude." - N.T. Wright, *Romans* (New Interpreter's Bible Commentary), p. 431. *Fr Joe*

ST FINBAR'S BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL LECTURE SERIES. "Women in the Bible" A

Presentation by Dr Debra Snoddy. Lecturer in Biblical Studies at Catholic Institute of Sydney

The Bible is a book that has been found relevant and meaningful to generation after generation. No matter the ebbs and flows of the culture, the stories, poetry, and historical accounts found in the Bible have spoken to people of all backgrounds. Among many areas in which the Bible is revolutionary, it's high regard for women, is one in which it is a document truly ahead of its time.

When: 24th October 2023, starting at 7.30pm

Where: St Finbar's Parish Hall

Cost: Donation

RSVP: secretary@stfinbars.org.au



THE ST FINBAR'S GLENBROOK CHILDREN'S ATRIUM NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The work has started to establish the new St Finbar's Glenbrook Children's Atrium, which will offer the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program for children from ages 3 to 6 from February 2024 in our parish. But we need your help to set up a holy and sacred space for the children. Could you please get in touch with Lucie Twyford (0424 793 359) if you have any of the following to donate:

- Furniture and storage:
 - * preschooler working tables (approx. 50x50x50)
 - * low wooden shelves (approx. L= any ; W= 26 to 30cm; H= 90 to 120cm)
 - * a wooden shoe shelf
 - * adult wooden chairs
 - * storage: baskets / containers/ boxes for figures/ objects
 - * little trays
 - * Liturgical items:
 - * a medium-sized leather bound Bible and a stand
 - * statues of: the Good Shepherd, the Holy Family, Mary
 - * Advent Wreath + Advent candles: 3 purple candles + 1 pink candle
 - * little white tea candles and holders
- Glassware/ silverware/ porcelain:
 - * a wooden spoon + 1/3 cup and teaspoon measurers
 - * small vases various shapes and colors
 - * various size porcelain cups/ bowls/ pouring jugs single or in pairs
 - * silverware milk jug, sugar bowl, perforated cheese shaker
 - * glassware: small carafe, pitcher, glasses, bowls, glass cruets with lid
- Cleaning items:
 - * child size broom and dustpan
 - * hand towels and washers
 - * Sponges
- Several indoor plants large and small (non toxic)

Thank you in advance for your help.

Isabelle Cox & Lucie Twyford - St Finbar's Glenbrook Children's Atrium Lead Catechists

Bateman Battersby
LAWYERS

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Law • Business Law • Wills & Estates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Law • Negligence Law • Court Appearances
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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Marie Kavacova (Mila Shehla's Cousin), Lyn Beltran, Joanne Macrae, Colin Haywood, Helen Hunt, Mary O'Sullivan, Shirley Cameron and Joe Grange.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

David Haynes (Yvonne Scanlan's Dad), Mark Cheeseman, Gwen Cullinan, Pat Bell, Chris Paine, Lyn Downes, Jacqui Visser, Margaret Stevens, Margaret Christensen, Mark Bates, Terry Stevens, Sophie Hollies, Colleen & Michael Nolan, 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:

Reginald Bailey, Rose Barrett, Hope Williams, Bruce Macbeth, Johanna Williams, Oliver Pinson, Margaret Corbin, Norval Thyrd, Peter Jeans, Margaret Collins, Robert Weston, Maurice Scaramuzzi, Mary Murray, Margaret Plim and Daphne Grange.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 21ST & 22ND OCTOBER 2023

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Peter McMahon	Stephen Brown
Senior Server	Ahyiesha D'Souza	Peter McMahon	Stephen Brown
Junior Servers	Harrison Bohan & Volunteer Please		Benjamin Grus & Abigail Stanford
Warden	Huia Kingi	Volunteer Please	Justin Dowling
1 st Reading	Beth Culliver	Kevin Lloyd	Patricia Murnane
2nd Reading	Maureen Tulk	Elizabeth Konza	Irene Aligno
Intercession	Felicity Lindfield	Kevin Flynn	Carmel Higgins
Music	Te Deum's		Holy Light
IT Operators	Henry Hanko	Kylie Mills	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Margaret Moore & Jan de Bie	Ann & Ray Keating	The Young Family
Communion	Allan Jones + Volunteer Please	2 x Volunteers Please	Carmel Higgins + Volunteer Please
Children's Liturgy	Michelle		
Piety Stall	Ann Marie King		
Church Care	Catherine Marceau, Jane Lennon, Christyna Lloyd, Beth Killeen & Camilla Lobo		
Hospitality	Marie Nassif, Kerry & Peter Herborn.		

Ballimino's
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EST. 2019

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