



***The Barra***  
*Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook*  
**2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B**  
**13th & 14th January 2024**

**1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19; Ps 39; 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20; John 1:35-42**

**WE ARE FILLED WITH THE PRESENCE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST INTO THE HEARTS,  
SOULS AND MINDS OF ALL OUR PARISHIONERS.**

**FR JOE'S MUSINGS**

**Ordinary Time? Bored?**

Liturgically, the Christmas season concludes with the solemnity of Jesus' Baptism on 7<sup>th</sup> January. It follows the so-called *Ordinary Time*. Because the term ordinary in English most often means something that's not special or distinctive, many people think that Ordinary Time refers to parts of the calendar of the Catholic Church that are unimportant. Even though the season of Ordinary Time makes up most of the liturgical year in the Catholic Church, the fact that Ordinary Time refers to those periods that fall outside of the major liturgical seasons reinforces this impression. Yet Ordinary Time is far from unimportant or uninteresting. The Latin word *ordinalis*, which refers to numbers in a series, stems from the Latin word *ordo*, from which we get the English word *order*. Thus, the numbered weeks of Ordinary Time, in fact, represent the *ordered life of the Church*—the period in which we live our lives neither in feasting (as in the Christmas and Easter seasons) nor in more severe penance (as in Advent and Lent), but in watchfulness and expectation of the Second Coming of Christ. That is the reason that the gospel of the second Sunday (14<sup>th</sup> January) after the Baptism of Jesus begins with an invitation to follow Jesus: "The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Hence, Ordinary Time is a time **for growth and maturation**, a time in which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into history until all things are finally caught up in Christ. The goal, toward which all of history is directed, is represented by the final Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.

Our Parish formation calendar may assist us in our continuous growth and maturation of the faith. **Mr Chris Ohlsen**, who was the first lay executive assistant to Bishop Vincent and recipient of ACU Centre for Liturgy Postgraduate Scholarship, is an expert in liturgical formation of adults. He will talk about the sacrament of the Eucharist on two nights (Wednesdays 21 Feb and 28 Feb 2024, at 7.30pm in the church). Fr Joseph Lam will present three lectures on the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus in the gospel of Mark since the readings of 2024 will be taken from this gospel (Tue 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> March, at 7.30pm). To conclude our faith formation activities for Lent, our traditional Passover meal will be celebrated in the Parish Hall (Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm). We are currently organising with our ecumenical friends the traditional Lenten Soup Sundays. For both events, we need your assistance and help.

***Please continue reading on page 3***



**PARISH INFORMATION**

**Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam**

E-mail: [joseph.lam@parracatholic.org](mailto:joseph.lam@parracatholic.org)

**Secretary:** Juliana Khnouf

E-mail: [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au)

**Admin:** Peter McMahon

E-mail: [admin@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:admin@stfinbars.org.au)

**PPC:**

E-mail: [stfinbarsppc@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.stfinbars.org.au)

**Facebook:** Glenbrook Catholic Church St Finbars

**Parish School:** Principal  
Mrs Robyn Clarke

Phone: 4724 3600

**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

## DIOCESE NEWS

<b>Sunday</b> <b>14th January</b> <i>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b>	<p><b><u>Be Part of Our Synod Journey: Diocesan Synod Report Now Available</u></b></p> <p>The Diocesan Synod Report is now available for download. The newly released Diocesan Synod Report offers a summary of our first Diocesan Synod assembly, held from 13-15 October 2023, its preparatory stages, in-depth details of the proceedings, and insights from delegates. Download your copy from the Parramatta Synod website now: <a href="https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/">https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/</a></p> <p><b><u>Liturgical Ministry Course returns in 2024</u></b></p> <p>The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in February 2024. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or <a href="mailto:mary.gale@parracatholic.org">mary.gale@parracatholic.org</a> or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <a href="https://officeforworship.org.au/">https://officeforworship.org.au/</a></p> <p><b><u>Diocesan Food Drives</u></b></p> <p>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 <a href="https://parracatholic.org/fooddrive">parracatholic.org/fooddrive</a> or emailing <a href="mailto:james.atanasious@parracatholic.org">james.atanasious@parracatholic.org</a></p> <p><b><u>Donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Appeal</u></b></p> <p>Following a series of surprise attacks against Israel by Hamas in early October, Caritas Australia is supporting partner agencies on the ground to provide emergency cash, shelter, and psychosocial support to those affected by the violence. The efforts of these partner agencies are expected to support 17,000 displaced families, representing around 100,000 of the 1 million people displaced. To support Caritas Australia's Gaza Appeal, visit <a href="https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/gaza-crisis/">www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/gaza-crisis/</a> or call 1800 024 413 toll free.</p> <p><b><u>Are you interested in becoming a pastoral and professional supervisor?</u></b></p> <p>Transforming Practices offers a rich formation in Pastoral Supervision. Supervision Formation comprises of 5 two-day Modules, held over 7 months. The next Portfolio of Learning Day will be held on Friday 3 February 2024 (with sufficient applicants). For those proceeding – an Introductory Day will be held on Friday 5 April 2024. All training days may be held on Zoom, face to face or in dual mode depending on successful applicant's location. For program prerequisites, please visit <a href="https://www.transformingpractices.org">www.transformingpractices.org</a>. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact the Registrar, Mary Pearson via email <a href="mailto:marypearson@gmail.com">marypearson@gmail.com</a></p>
<b>Monday</b> <b>15th January</b>	<b>No Mass. Office is closed</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>16th January</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b>  7.00pm Finance Committee Meeting M/R	
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>17th January</b>  <i>St Anthony</i>	<b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b>  7.00pm Bridge Club P/C	
<b>Thursday</b> <b>18th January</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b>  1.15pm Bridge Club P/C	
<b>Friday</b> <b>19th January</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b>  1.00pm Bowlers P/C	
<b>Saturday</b> <b>20th January</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b>  4.30pm Confessions  <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b>	
<b>Sunday</b> <b>21st January</b>  <i>3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b>  <b>9.30am Mass</b>  1.15pm Bridge Club P/C  2.00pm Bernadette & Samantha Phillips Concert	

# Parish News

## FR JOE'S MUSINGS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

From February onwards, Jeff Hodd, who is a seminarian at Holy Spirit Seminary in Harris Park, will stay with us in the presbytery as he will take up his six-month pastoral placement at St Finbars. Earlier, Jeff worked as a psychologist for over 40 years. He has extensive experience in the field as a private practitioner, senior counsellor, university lecturer & training manager. Jeff is a registered teacher and qualified TESOL teacher. Jeff also has degrees in Drama & Theatre Studies (Monash University) and in Theology, (Master of Theological Studies - University of Divinity Melbourne).

Let us welcome him when he arrives.

I wish you a wonderful week ahead.

*Fr Joe*

## *Midsummer Melodies – St Finbar's, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 24, 2:00 pm*

Be captivated by the beautiful voices of Bernadette and Samantha Phillips. They will be presenting 'Come to the Fair', 'Four Songs', 'Panis Angelicus' and many more. Be swooned by the chamber group Stringy Bach. They will be performing Beethoven String Trio in G Major.

Entry: Donation. All proceeds go to Medecins Sans Frontieres

## 2024 EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE

St Finbar's hosted the Epiphany Pilgrimage Fiesta last week. More than 100 participants took part in the walk from Our Lady of the Way Emu Plains up the Mountains. Here are some pictures of the day.



## VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED FOR 2024

Parish volunteers are urgently needed, specially for the 5.30pm Vigil Mass. Help is needed for Wardens, Ministers of Holy Communion, Readers, Gifts, IT operators, Sacristans and Senior Servers. Also the parish is need for new Council PPC (3) members, Deanery Council (1).

Training will be provided before you start.

If you are able to help please add your name and phone number to the new volunteers list on the noticeboard or email [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au). Thank you.

## NEW ROSTERS

Will be sent out next week via email. Please let the parish office know if you haven't received your copy. For the volunteers with no email address please pick your copy from the Warden's table. Thank you

### Bateman Battersby

L A W Y E R S

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[Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au](mailto:Enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au)



### SCOTT GLEESON Funeral Director

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02 9896 3299

[info@scottgleesonfunerals.com.au](mailto:info@scottgleesonfunerals.com.au)

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✉ [Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au](mailto:Gerard.Morson@turnerfreeman.com.au)





**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Pat Bell, Lilian Pockran and Maria Faggion (Fran Isaksen's Mother).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:**

Noreen Taylor, Huia Kingi, Bernie Fisher, Sue Bland, Connor Sipple, Katie Maloney, Christopher Thomson, David Haynes (Yvonne Scanlan's Dad), Gwen Cullinan, Chris Paine, Lyn Downes, Jacqui Visser, Margaret Stevens, Mark Bates, Margaret Christensen, 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 Pereira & Maureen Brown (Marcia Pereira's Sister, Brother & Niece).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:**

Donald Cameri, Robert Clark, Helen Morgan, Jonathan Murray, Christopher Appleton, Patrick Dempster, Francis Amaral, Mary Nelson, Geoffrey Clayton, Robert Pope, Phillip Dowding, Lyndsay Walmsley, Patrick Egan, Lesly Whitford, Lachlan Turnbull, Olive O'Neill, Reginald Moore, Doris Gibson, Darcie Pizarro, James Mulvey, Maureen Ingram, Catherine Hagen, John Castor, Georg Hauswirth, Daniel O'Keefe, Marie Boyle, James Barrett, Thelma Johnstone, Guiseppe Nardi, Angela McGregor, Kathleen McFadden and Bruce Oxford.

**LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 20TH & 21ST JANUARY 2024**

<b>Liturgical Ministries</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>7.30 am</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>
<b>Sacristan</b>	<b>Vince Dobson</b>	<b>Carl Moll</b>	<b>Stuart Sheary</b>
<b>Senior Server</b>	<b>Vince Dobson</b>	<b>Carl Moll</b>	<b>Martin Rogers</b>
<b>Junior Servers</b>	<b>Harrison Bohan &amp; Volunteer Please</b>		<b>Zoe Wilson, Dominic Sheary &amp; Tim Kensey</b>
<b>Warden</b>	<b>Lorraine Brown</b>	<b>Volunteer Please</b>	<b>Frank Fitzpatrick</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	<b>Maire Griffin</b>	<b>Kevin Lloyd</b>	<b>Peter or Trish Hurley</b>
<b>2nd Reading</b>	<b>Gideon Goosen</b>	<b>Volunteer Please</b>	<b>Annissa Nilsson</b>
<b>Intercession</b>	<b>Margaret Moore</b>	<b>John Isaksen</b>	<b>Frank Fitzpatrick</b>
<b>Music</b>	<b>No Music</b>		<b>No Music</b>
<b>IT Operators</b>	<b>Robyn Flynn</b>	<b>Elizabeth Konza</b>	<b>Pat Watson</b>
<b>Gifts</b>	<b>Volunteers Please</b>	<b>Kay Whitty</b>	<b>The Wilson Family</b>
<b>Communion</b>	<b>2 x Volunteers Please</b>	<b>Jessica Tiller &amp; Volunteer Please</b>	<b>Annissa Nilsson &amp; Volunteer Please</b>
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	<b>School Holiday</b>		
<b>Piety Stall</b>	<b>No Stall</b>		
<b>Church Care</b>	<b>Volunteers Please</b>		
<b>Hospitality</b>	<b>Trish &amp; Peter Hurley, Irene &amp; Bert Aligno</b>		
<b>Lawn Mowing</b>	<b>Kevin Debeck, Rob Lennon &amp; John Killeen</b>		



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