



The Barra
 Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook
 2nd Sunday of Lent - Year B
 24th & 25th February 2024

Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Ps 115; Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10

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

The Beauty of Repentance

According to the latest official Census 2021, 19.9 % of the local population (18,422) are Catholic (3,660), nearly 90% of St Finbar's parishioners own a dwelling, although some are still paying off their mortgages. Close to 1100 Catholics have changed their address since 2016. This means that young families are also moving into our Parish.

Moving a household is not just a change of spaces and items - packing up boxes of books and clothing, taking donations to Goodwill, going through the things that we own and trying to decide what needs to come with us and what doesn't. It is also impels us to think a fair bit about the things we carry with us through life, about how life changes (or doesn't change) over time, about our relationship to the past and the stories we tell ourselves about our own lives, and about how all of this relates to the present and future.

We carry an awful lot with us through this life – the physical stuff we keep and haul around, memories of the past, hopes for the future, loves and hates, joys and regrets. Sometimes these things serve us, but it also sometimes happens that we get entangled and become their servants instead. They become traps and snares holding us down, keeping us from moving on and embracing all that life has to offer.

There is wonderful quote in the Bible: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect." The transformation mentioned here, in Greek, is a literal "*metamorphosis*," and the word for "mind" comes directly from the Greek word *nous*, the same root we see at play as the second component of the word *metanoia*. In Greek, *metanoia* can also include the sense of "after-thought" (or reflection after the fact). It conveys, in a beautiful way, the sense of moving "beyond" mind – or of moving to a place where we can actually experience a change of mind, a change of heart – a place where we can actually begin to understand and see the world in a new way.

When we begin to further understand that "Perfect love casts out fear" (1 John 4:18), maybe we can also understand grace as something like the dawning of a new day, like a light to lighten every darkness and delusion, filling the present moment with possibility. As the verse in 1 John goes on to say, "whoever fears has not reached perfection in love." Understood this way, repentance and *metanoia* together can help us open our eyes; drop the old, crushing weight of our guilt and shame; and unlock the doorway to freedom, trust, love, and a new way of living.



PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam
 E-mail: joseph.lam@parracatholic.org
 Phone: 0493 461 990 **Emergencies only**
 (Sick call & death)
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'S BAPTISMS:

The Parish joyfully announces the Baptism of

Sienna Alexandra Radcliffe & Alexander Tinsley

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.

PARISH CALENDAR

NOTICES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Sunday 25th February <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Year B</i></p> | <p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.45am Baptisms</p> | <p><u>Young Adult Faith Formation sessions</u> continue on Sunday 3rd March 2024 at The Hustle (Unit 4, 4-6 Purdy Rd Minchinbury) at 7pm. The speaker is Monica Doumit who will talk about and lead discussion on ‘How to speak about Hot Topics in the public sphere’.</p> <p>All adults 18-35 are encouraged to come along and enjoy some faith formation, pizza and fellowship! If you have any questions please call Mark on 0477004687.</p> |
| <p>Monday 26th February</p> | <p>No Mass. Office is closed</p> | <p><u>Expression of Interest– Parish Tour:</u> If you are interested in our 15 Days Parish Central Europe Tour in May 2025, please register your interest with the Parish office.</p> <p>The tour includes stops in Germany (Frankfurt - Weimar-Berlin), Poland (Poznan, Warsaw-Auschwitz-Krakow), Hungary (Budapest), Slovakia (Bratislava), Austria (Vienna), Czech Republic (Prague), Germany (Munich-Nuremberg: Hometown of Fr Joe). June Bouche, who is a parishioner and director of Ruby Travels, is organising and managing the trip on St Finbar's behalf.</p> |
| <p>Tuesday 27th February</p> | <p>9.15am Mass 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice 7.30pm Baptisms Preparation Meeting M/R</p> | <p><u>Safeguarding Face-to-face Training</u> Have you had a chance to complete your first three Mandatory Safeguarding Modules as yet? Face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre Blacktown on Tuesday mornings in March. Module 1: Tuesday 5 March (10.00 –11.00am) Module 2: Tuesday 12 March (10.00 – 11.30am) Module 3: Tuesday 19 March (10.00 – 11.30am) <i>To register, please visit</i> https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?topic=safeguarding</p> |
| <p>Wednesday 28th February</p> | <p>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C 7.30pm Rekindle our wonder - Aspects of the Eucharist—Chris Ohlsen</p> | |
| <p>Thursday 29th February</p> | <p>9.15am Mass 10.45am Bridge Club Lessons M/R 1.15pm Bridge Club P/C 3.30pm Lenten Group—Mila Shehla's Group M/R 7.30pm Lenten Group—Fr Joe' Group M/R</p> | |
| <p>Friday 1st March</p> | <p>9.15am Mass 1.00pm Bowlers P/C 7.30pm Lent Adoration and Confessions</p> | <p><u>Thank you</u> I would like to thank Fr Joe, Gerard Egan and all for your prayers and good wishes for my recent major heart surgery. It was successful but will involve about another three months of recovery/rehabilitation time. Bernie & Fran Fisher</p> |
| <p>Saturday 2nd March</p> | <p>9.00am Lenten Group—Martin Roger's Group M/R 9.15am Mass 4.30pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass</p> | <p><u>ST FINBAR'S NETBALL CLUB</u> We currently have room for players in our following teams: Under 8's x 2 (can be turning 6, 7 or 8 in 2024) Under 9's x 4 Under 11/12's x 2 Under 13/14's x 2 Division 3 x 2 If you are interested please call Janette Ankers, Club President, on 0438 672 040.</p> |
| <p>Sunday 3rd March <i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Year B</i></p> | <p>7.30am Mass 9.30am Mass 6.00pm Youth Mass Live Streaming Link https://youtube.com/live/nGwlScw4FED?feature=share 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p> | <p><u>LAWSON REFLECTION MORNING:</u> On Saturday March 16th, 9.30am to 12.30pm. Barry Donaghue. cfc, D.Min “The Way of the Cross ... An Ending, a Beginning” This is a work of CATALYST FOR RENEWAL: Seeking renewal through conversation. It is one of 8 Reflections with varying presenters throughout 2024. More details: Jim 0421 125 722</p> |

FR JOE'S MUSINGS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

An update concerning the church's roof repair: The roof is now 30 yrs old. It needs urgent repairing and repainting to prevent further corroding and water leaks. Not acting now may cost us dearly in the near future. A complete replacement of the roof may amount to 2 million AUD. Because of the particularity of the roof, it is difficult to find the right company for this type of work.

We have received a first quote of 232K. We are now seeking a second quote!

Having just paid off the debt, our parish finances are not stable enough to pay the whole cost of repair! We also need to fundraise and to borrow some money to finance the repair. I am aware of the current cost of living crisis. The PFC and I are trying to find the best solution for it.

Fr Joe

EASTER ROSTERS –2024

Volunteers are needed to help with all the Easter Liturgies. We need qualified Readers, Senior Servers, Sacristans, Junior Servers, Thurifiers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and volunteers for Washing of the Feet. If you are qualified and able to help, please add your name to the list on the notice board. Please do not wait to see if others nominate - put your name up early as this helps enormously with the organisation of all the ceremonies. Thank you for all your help and support.

PASSOVER MEAL

You are invited to celebrate a Passover Meal at St Finbar's Parish Hall,
52 Levy Street Glenbrook on
TUESDAY 26TH MARCH AT 7PM
Cost: \$20pp or \$70 per family
RSVP: secretary@stfinbars.org.au
Limited seats are available and pre-booking is essential



ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS DURING LENT

Please note that Adoration and Confessions during Lent will be on Fridays at 7.30pm, commencing on 24th Feb. This is a wonderful way to prepare for the death and resurrection of Christ.

ST FINBARS MEN'S BREAKFAST

Date - Saturday 9th March 2024

Time - 7:30 am – 9:00 am Venue - Parish hall



The parish is holding another Men's breakfast as an opportunity for parishioners to meet and get to know one another. This invitation is open to all male parishioners and any of their sons, grandsons, neighbours and friends.

For catering purposes we will need to confirm numbers by Sunday 3rd March 2024

Please add your name to the list on the warden's table.

Any questions please contact the organisers, Carl Moll 0417 471 137 or John De Mattia 4739 6775

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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:

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS:

Trevor Anthony (Gerard Egan's Son in Law's Father), Noreen Taylor, Huia Kingi, Sue Bland, Connor Sipple, Katie Maloney, Christopher Thomson, David Haynes (Yvonne Scanlan's Dad), Gwen Cullinan, Chris Paine, Lyn Downes, Jacqui Visser, Terry Stevens, Margaret Stevens, Mark Bates, Margaret Christensen, 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:

Irene Wiecek, Vincent Basile, Paul Walker, John Venn, Zdenka Polak, Eva Lynch, William Wilson, Petrus Zwegers, Michael Yabsley, William Cummins, Brett Hopson, Eunice Shaw, Grace Buckley, Margaret Feld, Gloria Miles and Kenneth Moore.

LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 2ND & 3RD MARCH 2024

| Liturgical Ministries | 5.30pm | 7.30 am | 9.30 am |
|-------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sacristan | Emily Dowling | Carl Moll | Gerard Egan |
| Senior Server | Emily Dowling | Carl Moll | Lukas Rajnoch |
| Junior Servers | Alex & Luc Nilsson | Zoe & Oliver Wilson | Xavier Rajnoch & Benjamin Grus |
| Warden | Vince Dobson | Volunteer Please | Gary Clune |
| 1 st Reading | Beth Culliver | John De Mattia | Erin Kelly |
| 2nd Reading | Volunteer Please | John Killeen | Amanda Moore |
| Intercession | Greg Rowe | Kevin Flynn | Justin Dowling |
| Music | Naomi's Group | | Anne Hobbs' Group |
| IT Operators | | | |
| Gifts | Janice Smith & Volunteer Please | Maria Heinzl & Stanis Drobiszewski | The Grus Family |
| Communion | Elizabeth & Greg Rowe | Collen Fuller & John Killeen | Wendy Brown & Mila Svehla |
| Children's Liturgy | Pia | | |
| Piety Stall | Carmel Higgins | | |
| Church Care | Volunteers please | | |
| Hospitality | Lina Wiecek, Vicky Ang, Tamar Apkarian & Karen Sukkar | | |
| Lawn Mowing | Kevin Debeck, Rob Lennon & John Killeen | | |



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