



# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord- Year B  
30th & 31st March 2024

Acts 10:34, 37-43; Ps 117; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

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

### Christ is RISEN – The Eucharist as Blessing of Peace for a Wounded and Suffering World

The alternative Gospel of this Easter Sunday is taken from Mark 16:1-8. Biblical commentators consider it as an Epilogue, a section or speech at the end of a book or play that serves as a comment on or a conclusion to what has happened. Hence, the "Tomb", used five times in the Mk 16 is a commentary on the "wilderness" that dominates the first part of Mark's gospel. Both places are hostile to life. In both cases, there is a movement from outside to inside (into the wilderness and into the tomb), and then from inside to outside. Paradoxically, new life also emerges from these places.

Paul declares descent into and rising out of the water in baptism to be equivalent of burial and rising from the dead. In Mark, the descent of the Spirit upon Jesus and his manifestation as Son happens on the occasion of his baptism, while in Romans 1:3-4 these are bound up with his resurrection from the dead.

In Mark 16, rising from the dead is linked to the celebration of the Eucharist. Verses 16:1-2 "When the Sabbath was past. Very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb as the sun was rising" are a stark reminder that early Christians broke bread on the first day of the week.

This was Mark's answer to the question that the women raised when they had discovered the "empty tomb". Not only has God broken the power of death (the young man in a white robe [*stolē leukē*] sitting in the tomb is not Jesus, but represents the newly baptised who has died and risen with Christ), but the Eucharist is now the place that warrants the ever presence of the Risen Christ. This the reason for Mark's insertion that Christ "HAS RISEN (*ēgerthē*)" and therefore he is "NOT HERE" (in the tomb, but in the breaking of the bread!) Here, Mark removes the difficulty experienced by the women who were amazed at the removal of a "very large stone" that had locked Jesus inside the tomb.

The Eucharist is where Christians encounter Christ. There is an intimate relationship between the Christian and Christ. It is entering, in communion with Christ, into his paschal mystery: his death, resurrection and ascension. There is an actualism to his understanding of the Eucharist, a *participatio actuosa* (active participation) in Christ's eucharistic action. Benedict writes in "God Is Charity": "The Eucharist draws us into Jesus' act of self-oblation...we enter into the very dynamic of his self-giving." So intimate is the communion the Eucharist effects between Christ and the Christian that Joseph Ratzinger did not hesitate to speak of our *becoming Eucharist in Christ*.

Please continue reading on page 3



Wishing you all a Happy and safe Easter. May the Risen Lord bless you all and your families. Please note that the parish office will be closed on Tuesday the 2nd of April.

Fr Joe, Peter and Juliana.

## PARISH INFORMATION

### Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Lam

E-mail: [joseph.lam@parracatholic.org](mailto:joseph.lam@parracatholic.org)  
Phone: 0493 461 990 **Emergencies only**  
(Sick call & death)

### 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

Welcome & Congratulations to  
Matthews Pinato on receiving the  
Sacraments of Baptisms,  
Confirmation and Holy Communion  
this Easter Vigil Mass.  
May these Sacraments strengthen  
him in his journey as a catholic.

### 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><b>Sunday</b> 31st March</p> <p><i>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Year B</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b></p>
<p><b>Monday</b> 1st April</p> <p><i>Easter Monday</i></p>	<p><b>No Mass. Office is closed</b></p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b> 2nd April</p> <p><i>Easter Tuesday</i></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass. Office is closed</b></p> <p>10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C</p> <p>5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p> <p>7.00pm Parish Finance Committee Meeting M/R</p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b> 3rd April</p> <p><i>Easter Wednesday</i></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b></p> <p>9.30am Playgroup</p> <p>7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p><b>Thursday</b> 4th April</p> <p><i>Easter Thursday</i></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b></p> <p>1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>3.45pm Mila's Lenten Group Easter Celebration M/R</p>
<p><b>Friday</b> 5th April</p> <p><i>Easter Friday</i></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b></p> <p>1.30pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p><b>Saturday</b> 6th April</p> <p><i>Easter Saturday</i></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b></p> <p>4.30pm Confessions</p> <p><b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday</b> 7th April</p> <p><i>Divine Mercy Sunday 2nd Sunday of Easter Year B</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b></p> <p>Live Streaming Link <a href="https://youtube.com/live/QKvusoD-ZVo?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/QKvusoD-ZVo?feature=share</a></p> <p>7.00pm "The Lounge" Youth Group P/C</p>

**Synod 2023 Update: Decree issued and Development of Diocesan Plan Begins**

In January, the Synodal Decree from our inaugural Diocesan Synod was issued, enabling us to move forward in the development of a Diocesan Plan. Join us in the next phase of our journey, as we discern a new path forward for our local Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. The Diocesan Plan for a Synodal Church will launch at the Diocesan Gathering on Saturday 10 August. Learn more at [parracatholic.org/synod](http://parracatholic.org/synod)

**Free Online Formation on Synodal Spirituality**

Dive into 'Synodal Spirituality' with this FREE online short formation course, taught by Sr Patty Andrew OSU. Part of the FaithLIFE series hosted by the Mission Enhancement Team, the course offers an exploration of communal discernment, active engagement, and creative faith responses to challenges in the mission of the Church today. Enrol now and take part in Pope Francis's vision for a synodal Church: <https://pfparra.thinkific.com/courses/synodal-spirituality/>

**Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities**

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 27 April at Our Lady of the Way Parish, Emu Plains, for Modules 4 and 5. More training opportunities will be available throughout May. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>

For more information, please email:

[safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

**MET FaithLIFE Theology Short Course: from 16 April**

Considering learning about theology? Wanting to expand your language for expressing your faith? Seeking ways to deepen the way you put your faith into practice? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Theology short course with Dr John Collins on Tuesdays 16 + 23 + 30 April! Registration and more dates and details via QR or get in touch with the team via [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)



**Exploring Music for the Solemnities following Easter: 30 April and 2 May**

All are invited to the next music workshop organised by the Office for Worship and presented by Eric Grella. This workshop is perfect for all parish musicians and also for anyone who wishes to learn more about music for the Solemnities after Easter. As there has been a large interest in these workshops there will be 2 locations!!

- 30 April at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown from 7pm
- 2 May at St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith from 7pm

RSVP by 28 April

to [lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org](mailto:lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org) or 0460 037 795.



## FR JOE'S MUSINGS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

At the Easter Vigil, men and women throughout the world profess their faith and are baptized into the lifegiving waters of Jesus' death. They are anointed with chrism and join the communion of the faithful around the altar sharing in the Eucharist. All of those already initiated into the paschal mystery once again profess their faith in the renewal of our baptismal promises. The profession of faith both in mind and heart leads to the living profession, a living sacrifice of praise, through word and deed sharing in the lifegiving mission of Christ Jesus.

The Eucharist is the *Easter Blessing of Peace* gifted to his Church and the world by the Risen Christ since "by its nature the Eucharist is the sacrament of peace." (Benedict XVI, *Sacramentum caritatis*, no. 49). Each time, Christians exchange the sign of peace they are reminded also of their responsibility for the world: "At Mass this dimension of the eucharistic mystery finds specific expression in the sign of peace. Certainly, this sign has great value. In our times, fraught with fear and conflict, this gesture has become particularly eloquent, as the Church has become increasingly conscious of her responsibility to pray insistently for the gift of peace and unity for herself and for the whole human family."

On Easter, the Risen Christ brings his peace to our lacerated and suffering world: "Let us bring him into our everyday lives: through gestures of peace in these days marked by the horrors of war, through acts of reconciliation amid broken relationships, acts of compassion toward those in need, acts of justice amid situations of inequality and of truth in the midst of lies. And above all, through works of love and fraternity." (Pope Francis, *Homily on Easter Vigil*, 2022)

*Fr Joe*

## CONCERT FOR BUSH SCHOOL CAMBODIA AT ST FINBAR'S

A Variety Concert will be held in the Parish Hall on Sat. 20<sup>th</sup> April, commencing 7.00pm, following Vigil Mass. It is an evening of lively musical entertainment featuring talented local artists. A special act by Blue Mountains Musical Society features "Sound of Music" The cost is \$35 per person, \$60 for family, with some concessions available. A generous supper will be provided at interval. It will be the 9<sup>th</sup> concert at St Finbar's and will support the school in the coming year. To book, call Doug on 0403 303 943. See also the flyer in the Narthex.

## MUSICAL TREAT AT ST FINBAR'S GLENBROOK

SUNDAY 14TH APRIL AT 2PM

**COST: \$35 (At least \$5 from every ticket sold will go towards the church roof restoration project).**



Listen to the Lower Blue Mountains reverberate with the glorious sound of music on the 14<sup>th</sup> April at St Finbar's Catholic Church, Glenbrook. The theme of the concert is "We'll Raise You Up". Be enthralled and uplifted by the four-part harmonies from the renowned SMC (Sydney Male Choir), celebrating 111 years of "bringing joy through song". Over time, the choir has adapted its musical styles to the changing tastes of audiences, all the while maintaining its status as an iconic part of the Sydney arts scene.

The love of singing brings these men together. The camaraderie and friendship formed through rehearsing, traveling and performing together is reflected in their concerts. Be a witness to something truly out of the ordinary, and let us raise you up! Tickets available from the SMC website [www.sydnymalechoir.com.au/concerts](http://www.sydnymalechoir.com.au/concerts) or from the church foyer.

## YOUNG ADULT FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS

Continue on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at The Hustle (Unit 4, 4-6 Purdy Rd Minchinbury) at 7pm. The speaker is **Rev Dr Paschal Corby** who will talk about and lead discussion on '**The bioethics of IVF and contraception**'. 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.

### 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](http://www.batemanbattersby.com.au)**

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



## SCOTT GLEESON Funeral Director

**0404 770 008**

**02 9896 3299**

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

**[www.scottgleesonfunerals.com.au](http://www.scottgleesonfunerals.com.au)**

**2 Fennell Street, Parramatta,  
NSW 2150**

### 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](http://www.turnerfreeman.com.au)

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

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Paul McMahon (Peter McMahon's Brother), Trevor Anthony (Father-in-law of Rachel Egan) and Pat Bell.

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

Pat Barrett, Noreen Taylor, Huia Kingi, Sue Bland, Connor Sipple, Katie Maloney, Margaret Stevens, Chris Paine, Christopher Thomson, David Haynes (Yvonne Scanlan's Dad), Gwen Cullinan, Lyn Downes, Sophie Hollies, Jacqui Visser, Terry Stevens, Mark Bates, Margaret Christensen, Colleen & Michael Nolan, Maddison Farrugia, Harrison Aggar (Margaret & Ian Dickson's Grandson), Diosdado Roque (Geraldine Agahari's Father), Joan, Hubert Pereira & Maureen Brown (Marcia Pereira's Sister, Brother & Niece).

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

Donald Moffitt, Rosemond Coughlan, Cecil Luczak, Harold Gapps, Monica Barron, Sybil Mason, Mary Dutfield, Marjory Plevey, John Burrowes, Imre Varga, Geoffrey McNay, Frederick (Joe) Grange, Elizabeth Doyle and Shirley Conlon.

**LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 6TH & 7TH APRIL 2024**

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Emily Dowling	Peter McMahon	Gerard Egan
Senior Server	Emily Dowling	Peter McMahon	Lukas Rajnoch
Junior Servers	Alex & Luc Nilsson	Zoe & Oliver Wilson	Xavier Rajnoch & Benjamin Grus
Warden	Vince Dobson	Volunteer Please	Gary Clune
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Philomena Watkins	Michelle Wilson	Jessica Doherty
2nd Reading	Katy Ferris	John Killeen	Steve Baird
Intercession	Elizabeth Rowe	Kevin Flynn	Martin Rogers
Music	Naomi's Group	N/A	Anne's Group
IT Operators	Robyn Flynn	Joseph Wilson	Pat Watson
Gifts	Janice Smith & Volunteer Please	Maria Heinzl & Stanis Drobiszewski	The Grus Family
Communion	Beth Culliver & Lorraine Brown	Colleen Fuller & John Killeen	Garry Pursehouse & Wendy Brown
Children's Liturgy	Christyna		
Piety Stall	Carmel Higgins		
Church Care	Jeannine Ashbee, Deb Gall, Leesa & Wayne Gillard		
Hospitality	Lina Wiecek, Vicky Ang, Tamar Apkarian & Karen Sukkar		

**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

**RUBY TRAVELS**  
WORLDWIDE

**June Bouche, Director**  
Tel. 0401 895 998

*I am your Local Travel Agent and I specialize in customized & packaged holidays Australia & Worldwide for your Accommodation, Activities, Transfers, Ocean /River Cruises, International Airline & Rail Tickets.*

*I am an Authorized Agent for Globus & Trafalgar Family of Brands, Viva Holidays & Railbookers. Let Ruby Travels take you Worldwide.*

Email : [june.rubytravels@gmail.com](mailto:june.rubytravels@gmail.com)  
[www.facebook.com/rubytravelsworldwide](http://www.facebook.com/rubytravelsworldwide)