



# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
6th Sunday of Easter - Year B  
4th & 5th May 2024

**Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 97; 1 John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17**

**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

### SAFEGUARDING – IF IT'S GOD'S BUSINESS, IT'S ALL OUR BUSINESS

It is a theme which is replicated throughout the whole Bible, with God portrayed in the 121st Psalm, as the keeper of Israel. This Hebrew word can be translated as Safeguard, which is God's need and wish for the Church, not only that we are safe, but we all work for safety for all people.

That is affirmed in the theological idea of Salvation. In both the Greek and the Latin version of the word, the root of the word is safekeeping. The theological imperative of God is the safety of his children. Now abuse in all its forms at its heart denies people that opportunity to flourish. It robs them of that right. Abuse is therefore a fundamental denial of the Gospel, and a fundamental denial of all that God desires and purposes for us: which is why our God is so implacably opposed to it. And his judgment falls on abuse no less severely today than when it fell upon the snake.

Safeguarding – abuse on the one hand and human flourishing on the other – are matters of the deepest concern to God. So, they must be of the deepest concern to us. You can say that these are matters of core business for God – so they must be matters of core business for us too. At St Finbar's, there is zero tolerance of any kind of abuse. Here I echo the warning of Bishop Vincent: "The Diocese of Parramatta is committed to being a community of safeguarding that actively promotes the dignity and rights of children and of all persons, particularly those who may be vulnerable. We have a zero-tolerance to abuse of any form. We are committed to ensuring that all children and adults are safe, respected, protected and supported whilst in our care." Pope Francis calls abuse a crime! Hence, there is no excuse for sexual abuse, abuse of power, and the abuse of conscience. Pope Francis continues in a letter to the US bishops: "The abuse also harms the church, and the church is my mother and it hurts so much when she is wounded, when she is soiled."

Safeguarding is not just a business of the Parish Priest, although I am very aware of my position and potential risk. I keep reminding myself of the words that a mother of a child who was abused by a priest: "People, and especially children, don't see (just) a person in you, but (they see) Christ, Jesus, in whom they trust all the same without limits. It is something enormous and strong, but also very fragile and vulnerable."

Recent ACU research reveals that there is still a lack of awareness and uncertainty about how to detect abuse and act upon it with confidence. Professor Higgins, the lead author, said that more needed to be done to keep people safe.

*Please continue reading on page 3*



## 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)

(02) 47426958

Office Phone:

### **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

## SATURDAY BAPTISMS

The Parish joyfully announces the Baptisms of

*Archer and Harvey Ranson*

who will be Baptised on this Saturday.



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.*

<p><b>Sunday</b> 5th May</p> <p><i>6th Sunday of Easter Year B</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b></p> <p><b>9.30am Mass</b></p> <p><b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b></p> <p>Live Streaming Link  <a href="https://youtube.com/live/Y7-rkcWfQ28?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/Y7-rkcWfQ28?feature=share</a></p> <p>7.00pm Senior Youth Group</p>
<p><b>Monday</b> 6th May</p>	<p><b>No Mass. Office is closed</b></p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b> 7th May</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b></p> <p>10.00am Timeout Tuesday P/C</p> <p>5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b> 8th May</p>	<p><b>9.15am School Mother's Day Mass followed by Rosary</b></p> <p>9.30am Playgroup P/C</p> <p>7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p>
<p><b>Thursday</b> 9th May</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b></p> <p>1.15pm Bridge Club P/C</p> <p>4.30pm Blue Mountains Deanery Meeting M/R</p> <p>5.30pm Reconciliation preparation session P/C</p>
<p><b>Friday</b> 10th May</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b></p> <p>1.30pm Bowlers P/C</p>
<p><b>Saturday</b> 11th May</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b></p> <p>4.45pm Confessions</p> <p><b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday</b> 12th May</p> <p><i>The Ascension of the Lord Year B</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b></p> <p><b>9.30am Mass</b></p>

**Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal for our Holy Spirit Seminarians**



Will you support our seminarians to “go out into the deep” and serve? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will help our future priests cast their nets wide to nurture faith and meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of our community. Please give generously to the Bishop’s Good Shepherd Appeal at [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal) or scan this QR code. Thank you.

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

More training opportunities for Mandatory Safeguarding Training 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)

**CCD Formation Opportunities:**

**May and June 2024**

SRE catechists and all members of our faith communities are invited to participate in a series of formation opportunities organised by the Diocesan Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD). Delve into St John’s Gospel with a scripture expert, Dr Laurie Woods, over 5 weeks on 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 May. Continue your Journey of Faith for 5 weeks with Merilyn Hancock (Head, CCD) on 7, 14, 21, 28 June and 5 July.

All sessions will be held at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, from 9.30am to 1.30pm. For SRE Catechists to be accredited with Level 3 training, they must attend both sessions. Morning Tea will be provided. Enrol for one or both sessions via [parracatholic.org/events](http://parracatholic.org/events) or email [ccd.training@parracatholic.org](mailto:ccd.training@parracatholic.org)

**Holy Hour for Vocations: 17 May**

Please join us across the Diocese to pray for more vocations to the priesthood. Join us at St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood with Fr Chris del Rosario, on Friday 17 May from 7pm. If you are interested in becoming a priest or would like more information, please contact our Director for Priestly Vocations, Fr Galbert Albino on (02) 4773 4321, 0450 821 812 or email [galbert.albino@parracatholic.org](mailto:galbert.albino@parracatholic.org)

**YOUTH NIGHT**  
ST. FINBAR'S PARISH, GLENBROOK

EVERY 1<sup>ST</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH @ 6PM  
 MASS: 6PM SUPPER: 7PM  
 THE LOUNGE YOUTH GROUP: 7.30-8.30PM

**“INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE IN OUR DAY: 60 YEARS AFTER NOSTRA AETATE”**

**Date and Time:** 6.00-8:30 pm, Wednesday 8 May 2024

**Venue:** St Patrick’s Cathedral Cloisters, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta  
 Cardinal Fitzgerald is the former President of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue.

This is an exciting opportunity to hear from one of the architects and leading exponents of the Catholic Church’s teaching and attitudes towards believers from other religions.

Attend in person or online. Places are limited, so book early using the QR code on the flyer in the narthex or the following link: <https://bit.ly/49torg2>

# ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

## FR JOE'S MUSINGS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We are all responsible and must help to prevent abuse occurring in our midst. We need to be pro-active in attending the safeguarding sessions offered by the diocesan safeguarding team. Please be aware of the normative protocols that the Diocese has put in place (<https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/>) Most importantly, we need to be aware and assess the possible risks that we may present to others.

Thank you for your invaluable contribution to provide a safe place for all who come to our parish for worship and fellowship.

*Fr Joe*

## **FIX THE ROOF RAFFLE**

Thank you to everyone who has been able to take a book of tickets to sell. Thank you also to those who have already bought tickets! To date, we have distributed 178 books, which is 72% of the 250 books. Please contact the parish office 47426958 or Patricia Murnane 0438242562 if you require more tickets to sell.

Any sold books and cash can be handed in at the Parish Office or to the Wardens at weekend Masses.

**Please Note:** That the problem on the parish website with the Make a Payment page has been fixed. This means that you will be able to use the QR code on the raffle tickets.

## **YOUTH INITIATIVE FOR MOTHER'S DAY**

In honor of our Mother Mary this Mother's Day, the Parish Youth Group would like your assistance in fundraising for families facing unplanned pregnancies.

Please donate nappies and baby wipes and leave in the narthex.

## **PENTECOST CELEBRATION**

Gather with us around the fire to pray, sing and experience the Holy Spirit.

When: Friday, 17th May 2024

Where: St Finbar's Church garden

Time: 6-6.45pm BYO Dinner (optional)  
7-8.15pm Pentecost Celebration (Main Event)  
8.15-9pm Social Gathering (optional)

BYO - camping chairs, blankets, food & drinks and marshmallows if joining for our social gathering.

RSVP to Kristina on 0410 678 127 or sign up on the sheet in foyer.

## **PEACE JUSTICE ECOLOGY TABLE TALK "LAUDATO SI' WEEK – SEEDS OF HOPE": 20 MAY 2024**

You are invited to an engaging conversation about caring for God's creation: Hear and discuss inspiring stories from lived experience, and play a role in creating positive change in the spirit of Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si'.

Join this Diocesan Table Talk on Monday 20 May, 6pm – 8:30pm, St Finbar's Parish Glenbrook.

Light dinner will be provided on arrival. Please register by 12 May and find out more at [tinyurl.com/laudatosi-table-talk](https://tinyurl.com/laudatosi-table-talk)



## **Bateman Battersby**

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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)**

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

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NSW 2150**

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



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Robert Aitken and Mary Young (Aaron Young's Grandmother).

**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:**

David Apps, Tadeusz Bojec, Jonathan Baines, Michael Wilcox, Edna Mooney, Alexander Laing, Peter Smith, Michael Au, Joseph (William) Horneman, Laurence Brooks and Maureen Holmes.

**LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 11TH & 12TH MAY 2024**

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Jeff Hood	Carl Moll	Garry Pursehouse
Senior Server	Jeff Hood	Carl Moll	Joseph Sukkar
Junior Servers	Quentin Lynch & Eoghan McKenna		Oliver Wilson, Noah Young & Patrick Sukkar
Warden	Maree Roach	Volunteer Please	Patricia Murnane
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Philomena Watkins	Peter McMahan	Richard Cutler
2nd Reading	Dawn Willis	Geraldine Agahari	Carmel Higgins
Intercession	Maureen Tulk	John Killeen	Joanne Stubbs
Music	Bernadette Phillips & Michael Taylor		Finnie's Group
IT Operators	Anne Hobbs	Kylie Mills	Joanne Stubbs
Gifts	Margaret & Michael Richards	Volunteers Please	Dorothea Walsh & Volunteer Please
Communion	Thea Robertson & Brian Robertson	Jim Tierney & Kath Tierney	Gerard Egan & Yvonne Scanlan
Children's Liturgy	Michelle		
Piety Stall	Beth Culliver		
Church Care	Catherine Marceau, Jane Lennon, Christyna Lloyd, Beth Killeen & Camilla Lobo		
Hospitality	Anne King, Lynne Atkinson, Liz & Daren Dukes		

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