



# The Barra

Weekly Newsletter of St. Finbar's Catholic Parish, Glenbrook  
The Ascension of the Lord - Year B  
11th & 12th May 2024

Acts 1:1-11; Ps 46; Ephesians 1:17-23; Mark 16:15-20

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

### "I can image no greater heroism than Motherhood."

This Sunday many Australians will spend the day celebrating their mothers and other special women in their lives. Some mums may be given cards, flowers and gifts, while others may enjoy breakfast in bed or a lunch out.

Stories of a mother's love will fill annals in God's library of unrecognized faithfulness, even though true motherhood is more broad than just that.

Mother's Day is a good opportunity to once again talk about God's motherly qualities. God has Mother's Day too!

In Hebrew, the mercy of God is profoundly feminine. The mercy of God is God's motherly side. We know this beautiful passage from the book of the prophet Isaiah: "As a mother comforts, so I will comfort you." (Isaiah 66:13) We also know the image of the comforting, breastfeeding mother from Psalm 131:2: "As a breast-fed child with its mother, like the breast-fed child, so is my soul in me." In God's motherly love children feel secure.

Motherhood is woven into the very fabric of creation, and God says that all of creation tells about his glory (Psalms 19:1; Romans 1:20).

Women, like God, have the gift of generative love. A woman has the ability to love a man in such a way that she can turn him into a human being. Indeed, women are the type of people whom other people come out of. Mothers have a kind of incarnational power.

They incarnate marital love in a human person. Also, motherhood reflects the nurturing nature of God. Without mothers, we would be naked, hungry, and afraid. So mothers are a visual picture of God's tangible care for us.

Mothers are a gift to all humanity because they show us what God is like. In a loving mother we see Christ, who longs to gather his people like a mother hen would gather her chicks under her wings (Mathew 23:37).

Motherhood is not a hobby; it is a calling. Mothers don't collect children because they think children are cuter than stamps. Or because mothers can just squeeze their children somehow between their jobs and hobbies.

*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 McMahan  
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

## SUNDAY RITE OF WELCOME

The Parish joyfully welcomes  
**George Jeffries**  
into our Faith Community.  
He is going to be Baptised at  
our Parish next weekend.  
May God bless him.



### **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 OF PARRAMATTA NOTICES**

<p><b>Sunday</b> 12th May <i>The Ascension of the Lord Year B</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b></p>	<p><b><u>Holy Hour for Vocations: 17 May</u></b> 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 <a href="mailto:galbert.albino@parracatholic.org">galbert.albino@parracatholic.org</a></p> <p><b><u>CCD Formation Opportunities: May and June 2024</u></b> 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 <a href="http://parracatholic.org/events">parracatholic.org/events</a> or email <a href="mailto:ccd.training@parracatholic.org">ccd.training@parracatholic.org</a></p> <p><b><u>Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities</u></b> 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: <a href="https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training">https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training</a> For more information, please email: <a href="mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org">safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org</a></p> <p><b><u>Bishop’s Good Shepherd Appeal for our Holy Spirit Seminarians</u></b> 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 <a href="http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal">yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal</a> or scan this QR code. Thank you.</p> 
<p><b>Monday</b> 13th May</p>	<p><b>No Mass. Office is closed</b> 5.00pm SVDP Meeting M/R</p>	
<p><b>Tuesday</b> 14th May <i>St Matthias</i></p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 9.30am Pastoral Care Meeting M/R 5.30pm Cantabile Choir Practice</p>	<p><b><u>YOUTH INITIATIVE FOR MOTHER’S DAY</u></b> 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.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b> 15th May</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass followed by Rosary</b> 9.30am Playgroup P/C 7.00pm Bridge Club P/C</p>	
<p><b>Thursday</b> 16th May</p>	<p><b>9.15am Healing Mass followed by morning tea</b> 1.15pm Bridge Club P/C 5.30pm Reconciliation preparation session P/C</p>	
<p><b>Friday</b> 17th May</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 1.30pm Bowlers P/C 6.00pm Pentecost Gathering P/C</p>	
<p><b>Saturday</b> 18th May</p>	<p><b>9.15am Mass</b> 2.30pm Sacrament of 1st Reconciliation 4.45pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass</b></p>	
<p><b>Sunday</b> 19th May <i>PENTECOST SUNDAY Year B</i></p>	<p><b>7.30am Mass</b> <b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>10.45am Baptisms</b> 1.15pm Bridge Club P/C <b>6.00pm Youth Mass</b> Live Streaming Link <a href="https://youtube.com/live/SBu7z-m_EPO?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/SBu7z-m_EPO?feature=share</a> 7.00pm Senior Youth Group P/C</p>	

# ST. FINBAR'S PARISH NEWS

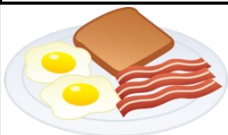
## FR JOE'S MUSINGS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In caring for His children, God also shows himself as a constant working mother.

My mom is one of my greatest heroes, and I am the fruit of her labours and love. I have seen in her the God who gives me the courage to submit myself to his reign and the strength to give myself for the sake of others.

My best wishes to all grandmothers and mothers. May God also bless you. Let us also not forget those who have died. May they find rest in the motherly arms of God.

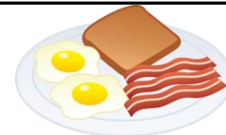
*Fr Joe*



### ST FINBARS MEN'S BREAKFAST

Date - Saturday 1st June 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 26th May 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

## SACRISTANS AND SENIOR SERVERS FOR THE 5.30PM VIGIL MASS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED.

The parish is urgent need for more Sacristans and Senior Servers specially for the 5.30pm Vigil Mass. Training is provided and you will only be rostered once a month. If you are able to help please let the parish office know on 47426958 or email [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au). Looking forward to hearing from you.

Thank you. *Juliana/Parish Secretary*

## 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](http://tinyurl.com/laudatosi-table-talk)



## 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.

### Bateman Battersby

LAWYERS

*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:**

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:**

Greg Masters (Janice Smith's Nephew), Emma Peters, Marjorie Aussel, Peter Buckley, Thomas Hannigan, Kathleen Scholfield, Michael Hughes, John Appleton, Anita Dyson, Michael Moelroy, Paul Zoeller, Claire Fisher, Dennis Barron and Cyril Fitzjohn.

**LITURGICAL ROSTER FOR 18TH & 19TH MAY 2024**

Liturgical Ministries	5.30pm	7.30 am	9.30 am
Sacristan	Vince Dobson	Peter McMahon	Stuart Sheary
Senior Server	Vince Dobson	Peter McMahon	Martin Rogers
Junior Servers	Harrison Bohan & Volunteer Please		Zoe Wilson, Dominic Sheary & Tim Kensey
Warden	Lorraine Brown	Volunteer Please	Frank Fitzpatrick
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Maire Griffin	Kevin Lloyd	Peter or Trish Hurley
2nd Reading	Gideon Goosen	Volunteer Please	Annissa Nilsson
Intercession	Margaret Moore	John Isaksen	Frank Fitzpatrick
Music	Cantabile		Naomi's Group
IT Operators	Henry Hanko	Elizabeth Konza	Thais Turner
Gifts	Thea & Brian Robertson	Kay Whitty	The Wilson Family
Communion	Ahyiesha D'Souza & Volunteer Please	Helen Keogh & Brian Grech	Todd Stanford & Annissa Nilsson
Children's Liturgy	Colin		
Piety Stall	Lee Jackson		
Church Care	Claire Warren, Liam Isaksen & Connor Isaksen		
Hospitality	Trish & Peter Hurley, Irene & Bert Aligno		



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